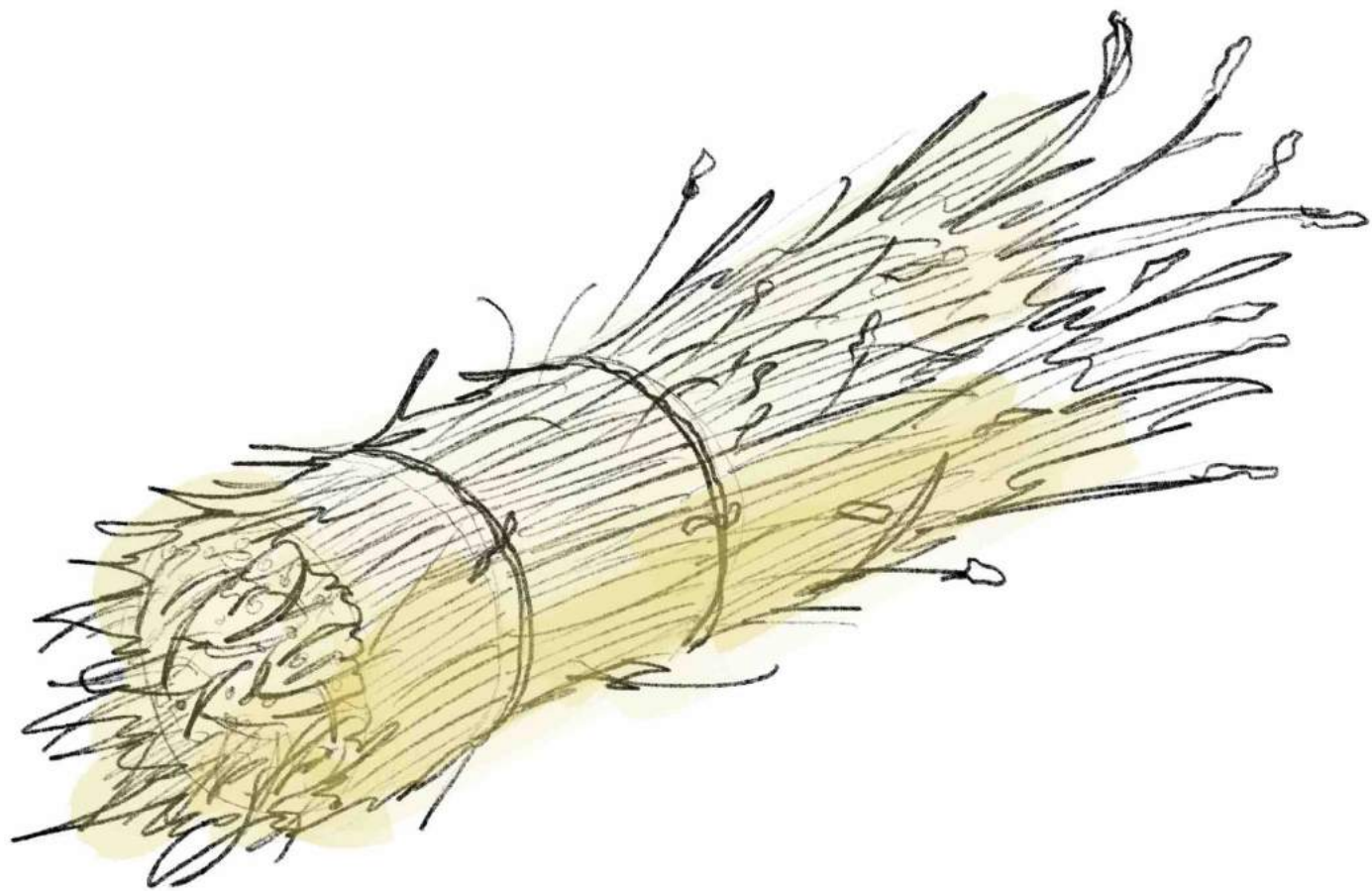


# The COMBED WHEAT REED Thatch Micromanual





COMBED WHEAT REED  
THE THATCH MICROMANUAL

BY SOURABH PHADKE

A BACK BREAKING PUBLICATION BY

BRAUN & BYURDAID INT'L

AND

EKDUM BUNDLE PRAKASHAN

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(But it'd be sweet of you to drop a line).

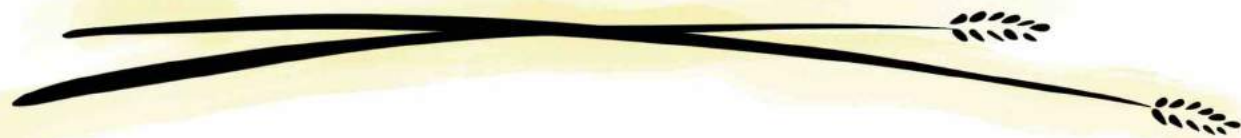




## SEEDS of gratitude ...

the prince's foundation      &      queen  
elizabeth scholarship  
trust

( who made it all possible )



## REEDS of gratitude ...

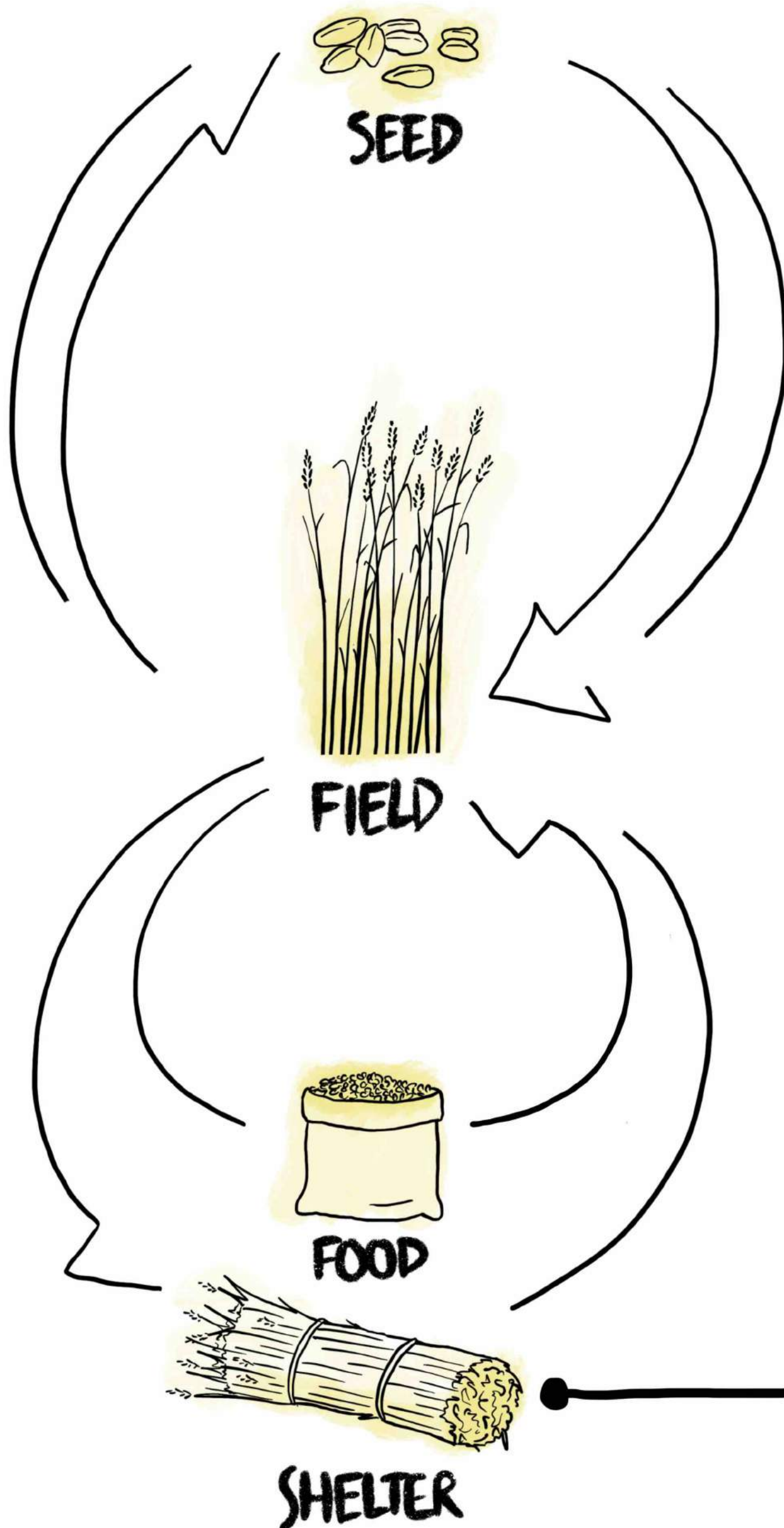
ben collins , ellie , layla  
&

dale 'the whale'

( who possibly made it all )



## THE STORY THUS FAR ...



WE SHALL DIVE INTO THE ANT HROPOCENTRIC WHEAT'FIGURE OF EIGHT' AT THE PRECISE MOMENT WHEN THE WHEAT-WHICH HAD BEEN SO UNMONTHS AGO-HAS BEEN HARVESTED AND THEN THRESHED IN ORDER TO SEPARATE THE SEED FROM THE REED. FOR WE CAN NOW BAKE SOME WHOLE WHEAT BREAD AND WHILE CHOMPING ON IT BEGIN THE PROCEEDINGS TO TURN THE THRESHED STRAW INTO A LOVELY THATCHED ROOF.

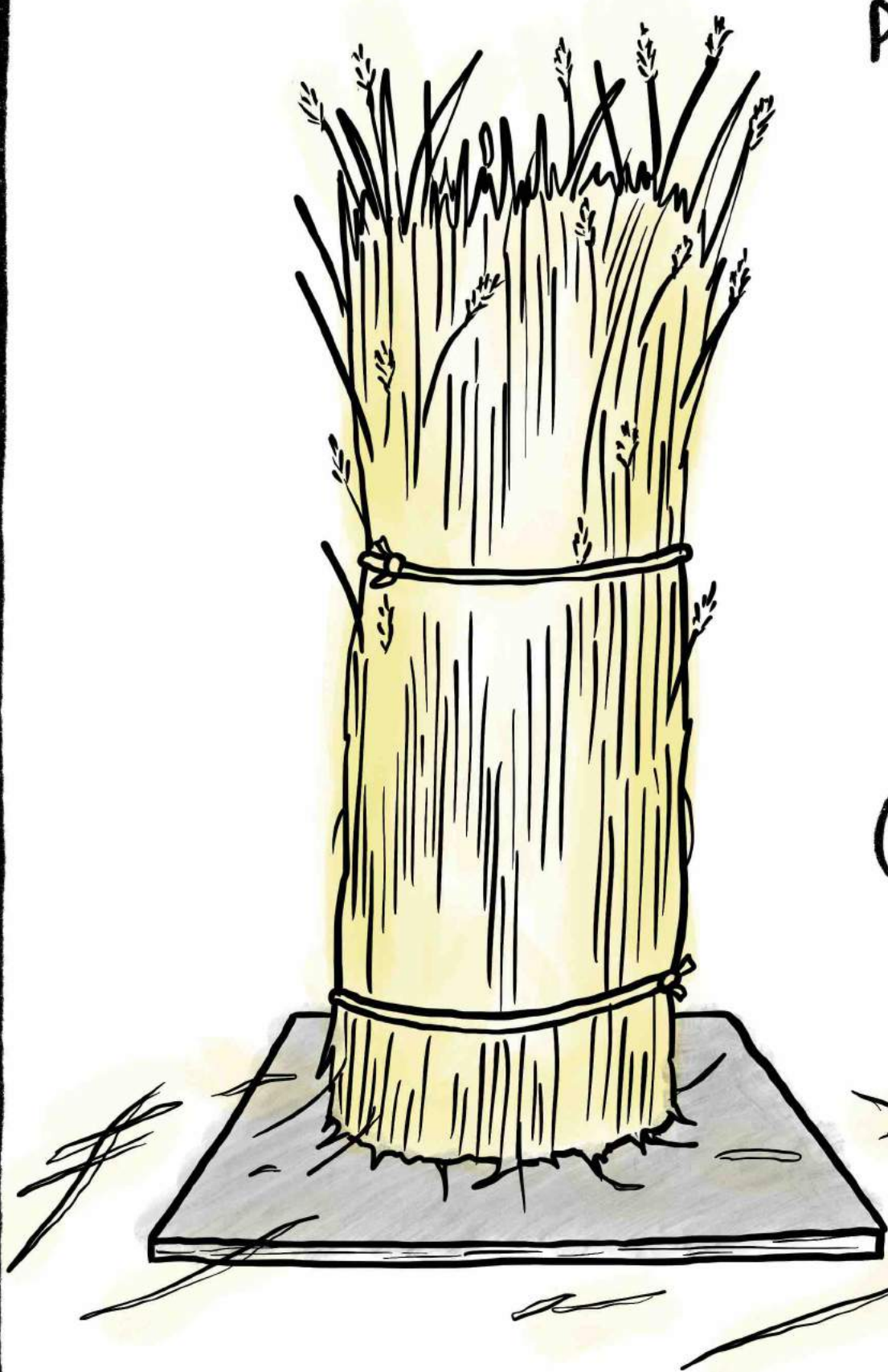
OUR JOURNEY TO THE RIDGE STARTS WITH THE HUMBLE STRAW BUNDLE.



THIS SCRUFFY BUNDLE  
NEEDS A LOT OF WORK



FIRST,  
WE CLEAN IT BY  
PULLING OFF LOOSE BITS  
OF STRAW & LEAF

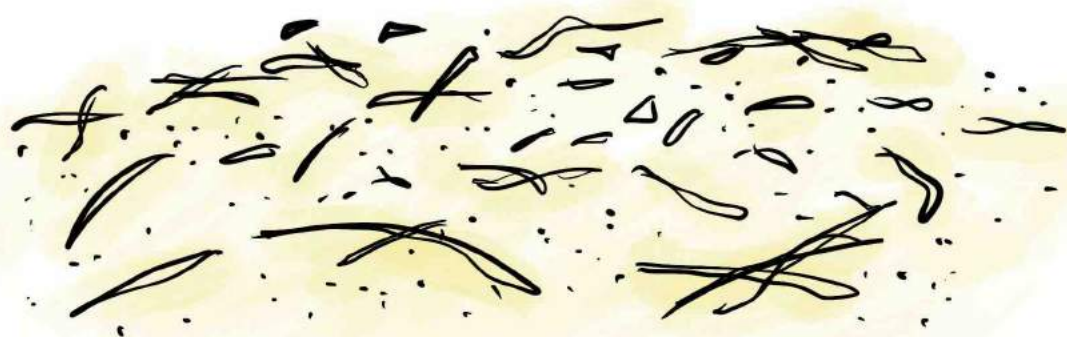


THEN WE CAN SMACK  
THE BUNDLE ON A  
LEVEL SURFACE TO  
GET AN EVEN FACE  
(keep at it until a  
dull thud turns into  
a sharp thwack)

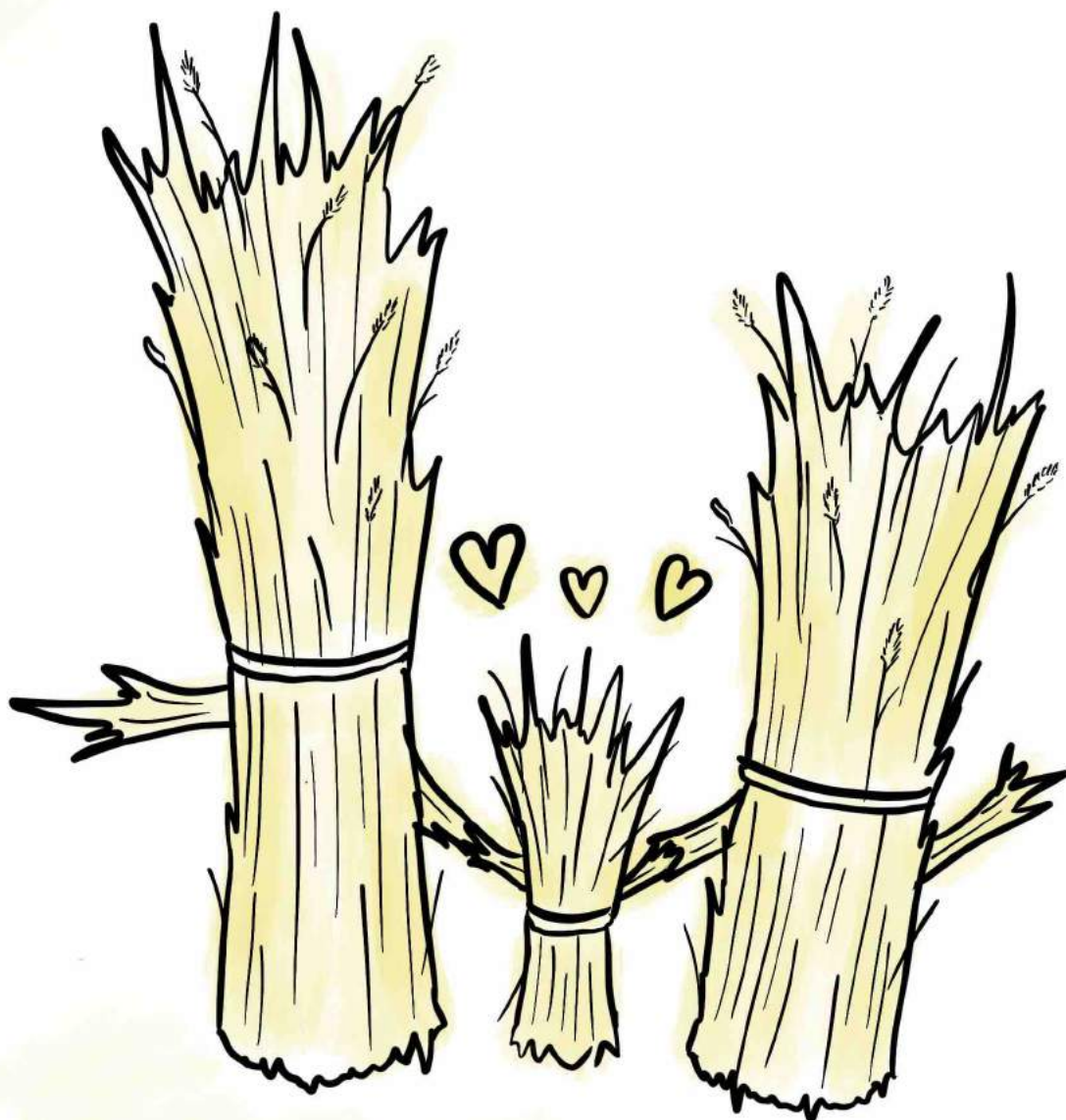




THIS SMACKED  
FACE CAN  
BE GIVEN A  
SMART SHAVE  
("That which is  
smacked, smarts")  
-Anon.)



USING 'GOLDILOCKS  
VISION', THE BUNDLES  
CAN NOW BE SORTED  
INTO MAMA, PAPA  
& BABY STACKS





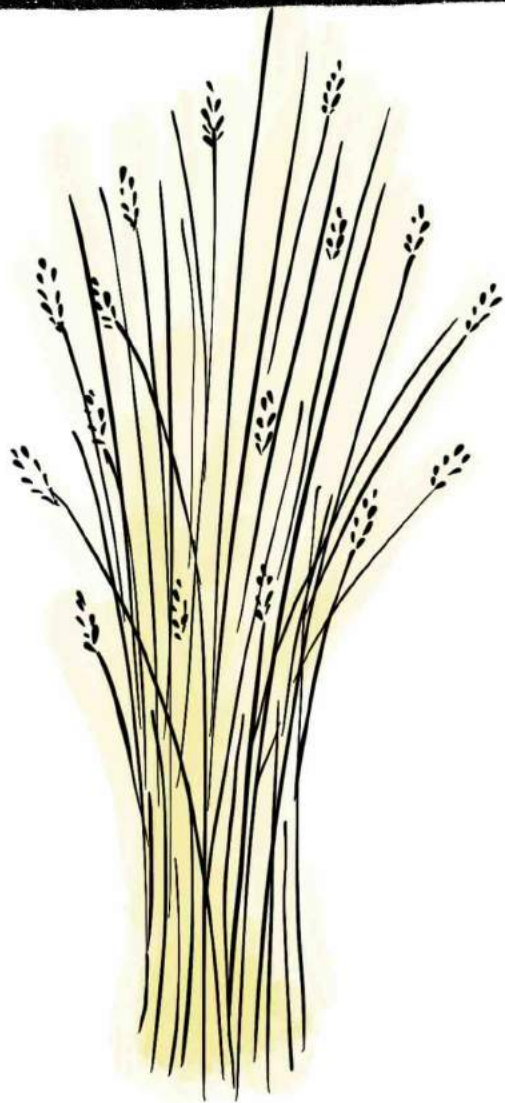
EVERY BUNDLE  
GOES THROUGH  
SEVERAL STAGES  
OF HANDLING

WHEREIN WE  
GET RID OF THE  
SHORT STUFF  
AND END UP  
WITH :

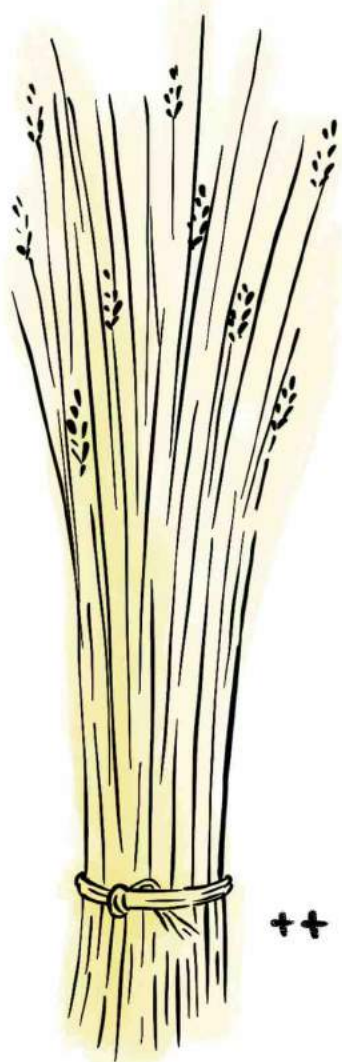
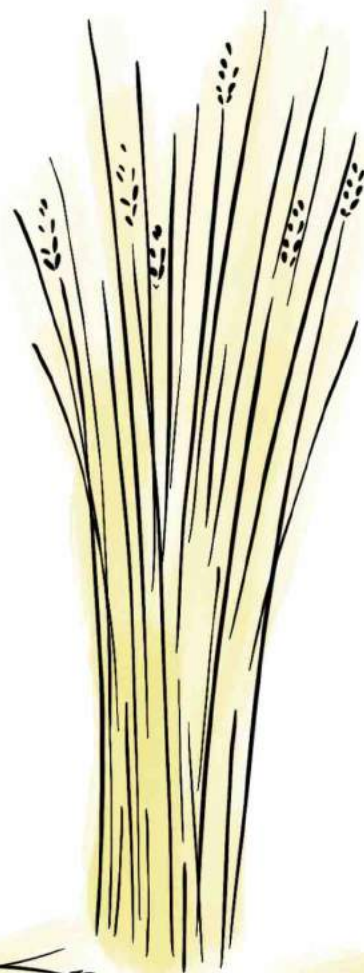
A NICE YELM





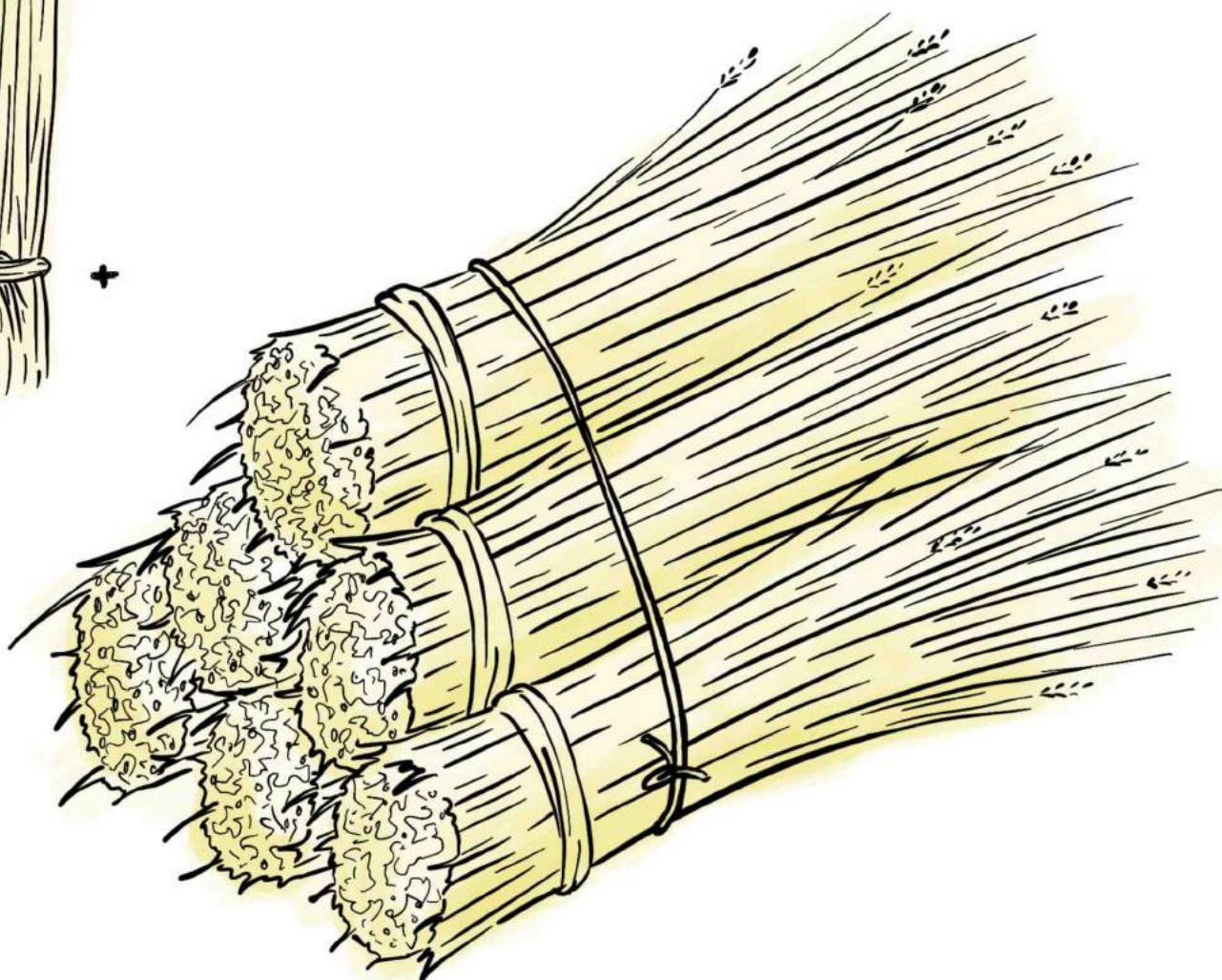


SO THIS  
CHOREOGRAPHED  
SEQUENCE TAKES  
US FROM LARGE,  
MIXED BUNDLES  
TO SMALLER ONES  
OF EQUAL LENGTH



THESE CAN THEN  
BE TIED INTO  
EAVES WADS<sup>+</sup> OR  
PACKS FOR COATWORK<sup>++</sup>

PACKS OF  
SIMILAR LENGTH  
CAN BE TIED  
TOGETHER

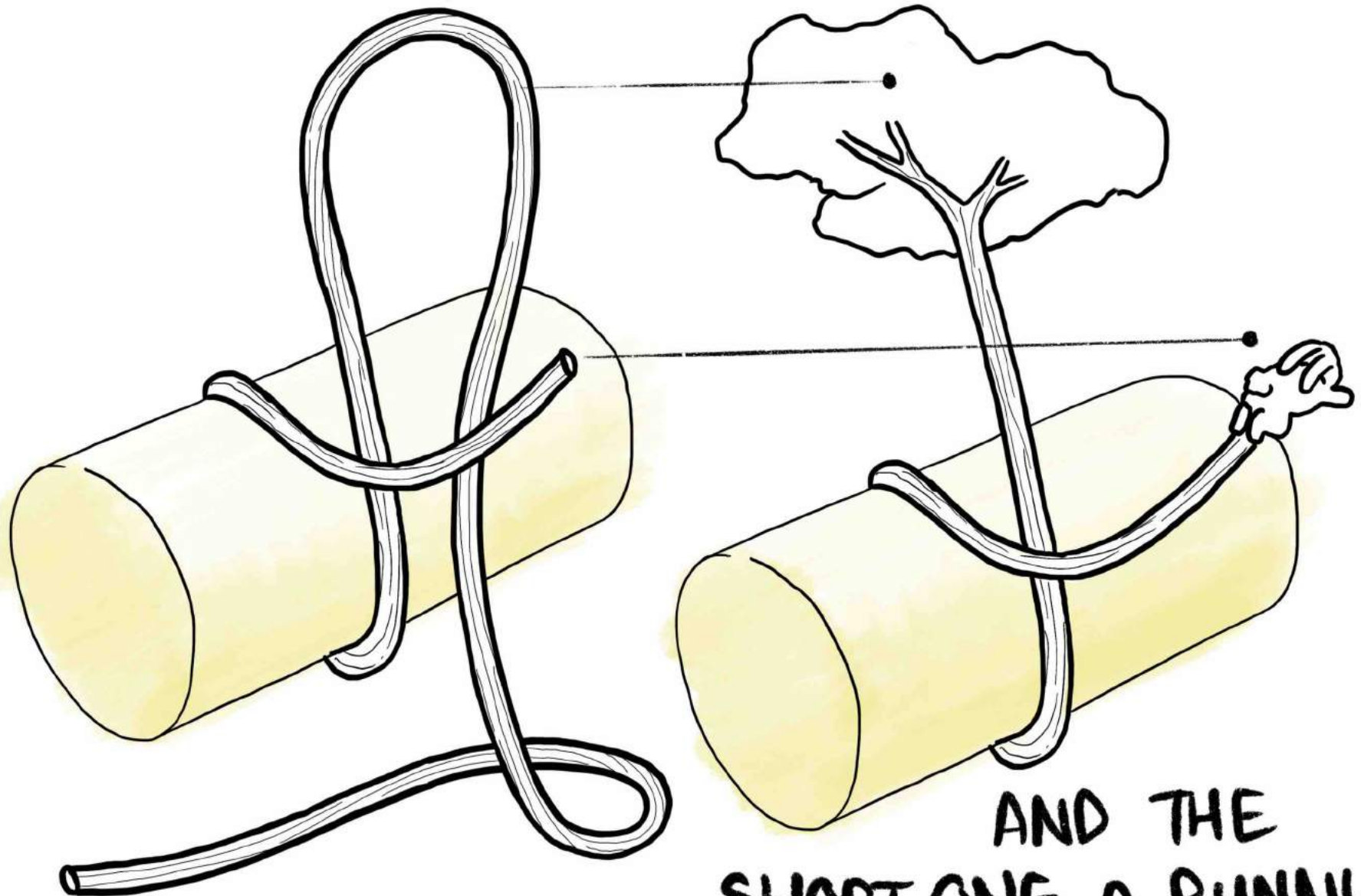


AND THIS IS WHERE A BUNNY KNOT HELPS...

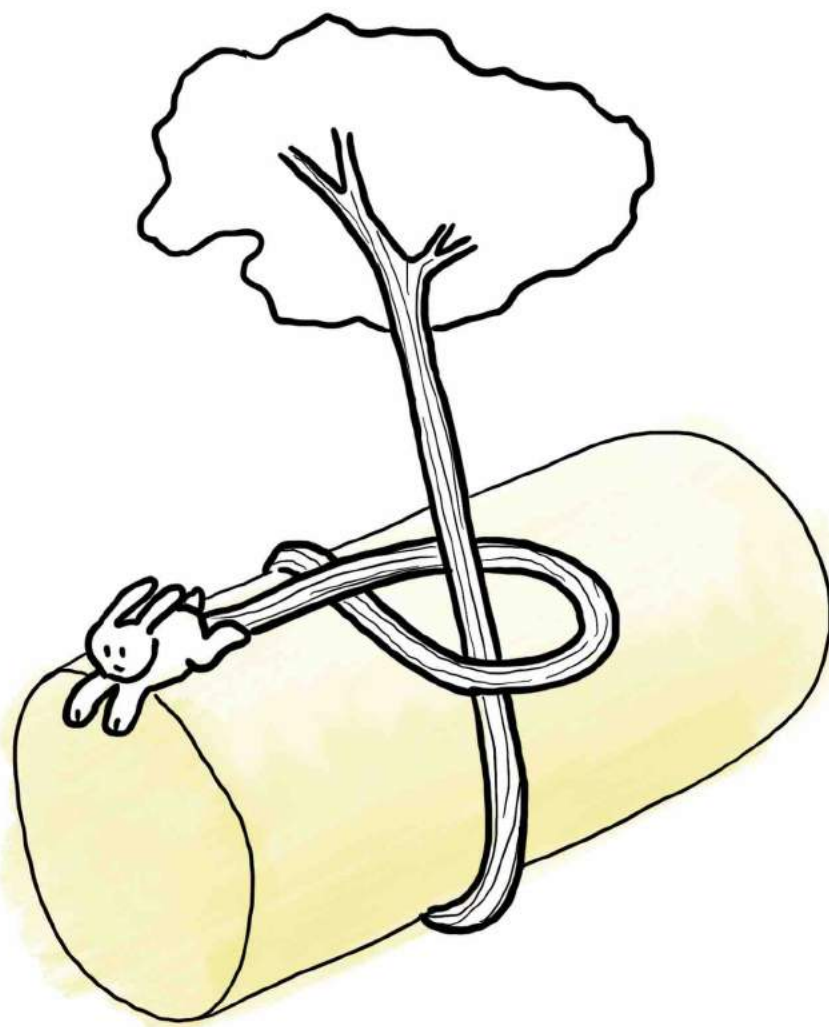


## DETOUR BEGINS

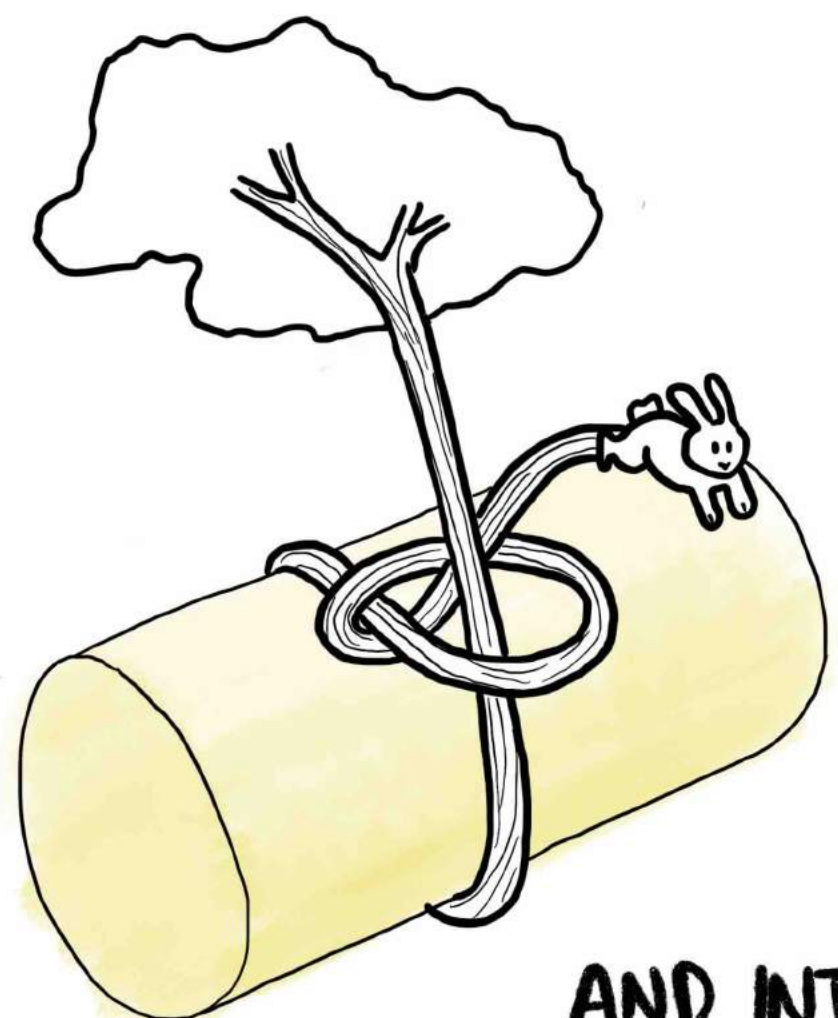
IMAGINE THAT THE LONG END OF THE ROPE  
IS A TREE ...



AND THE  
SHORT ONE A BUNNY



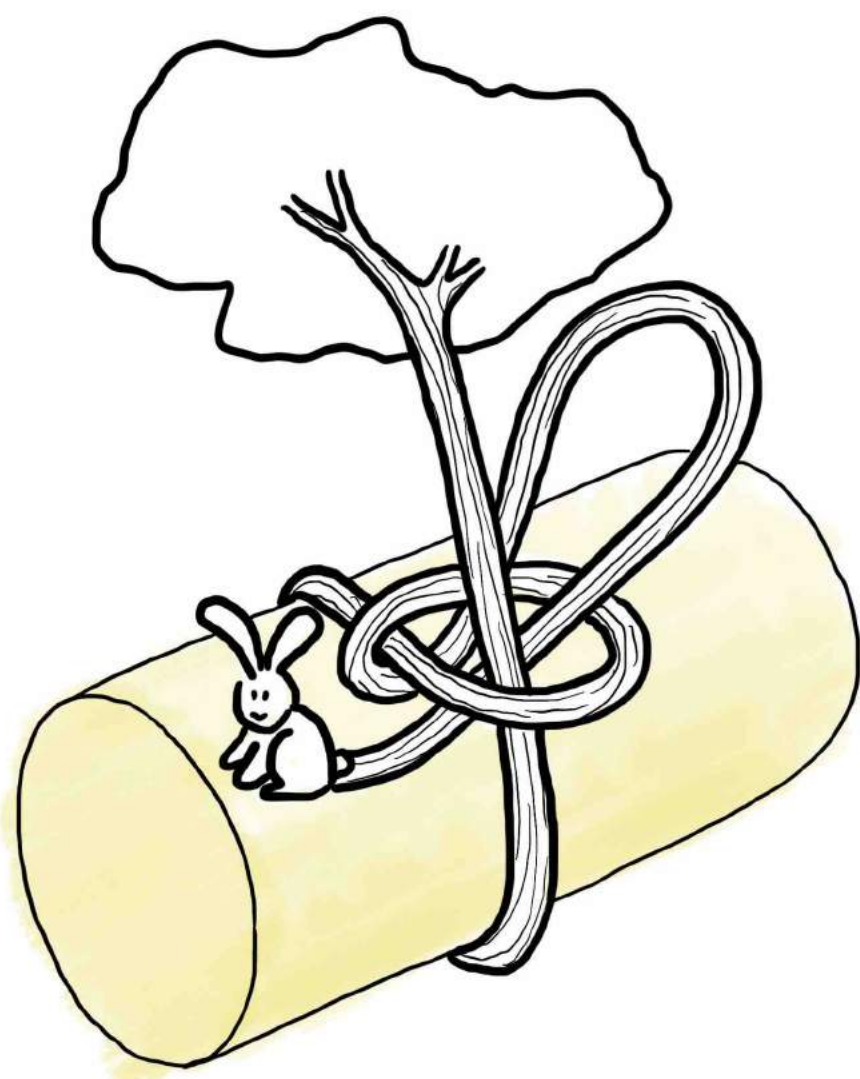
FOLLOW THE BUNNY  
AROUND THE TREE



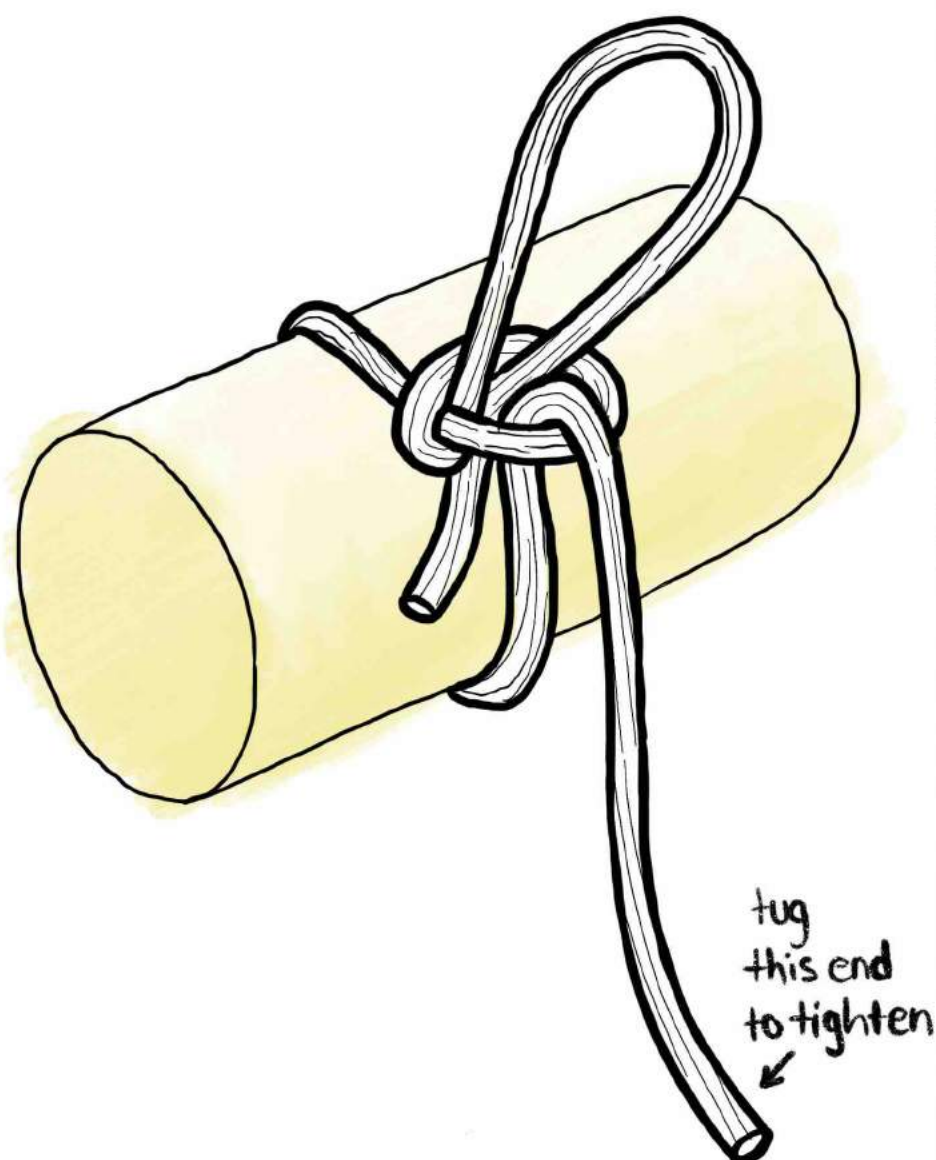
AND INTO  
THE 'BURROW'



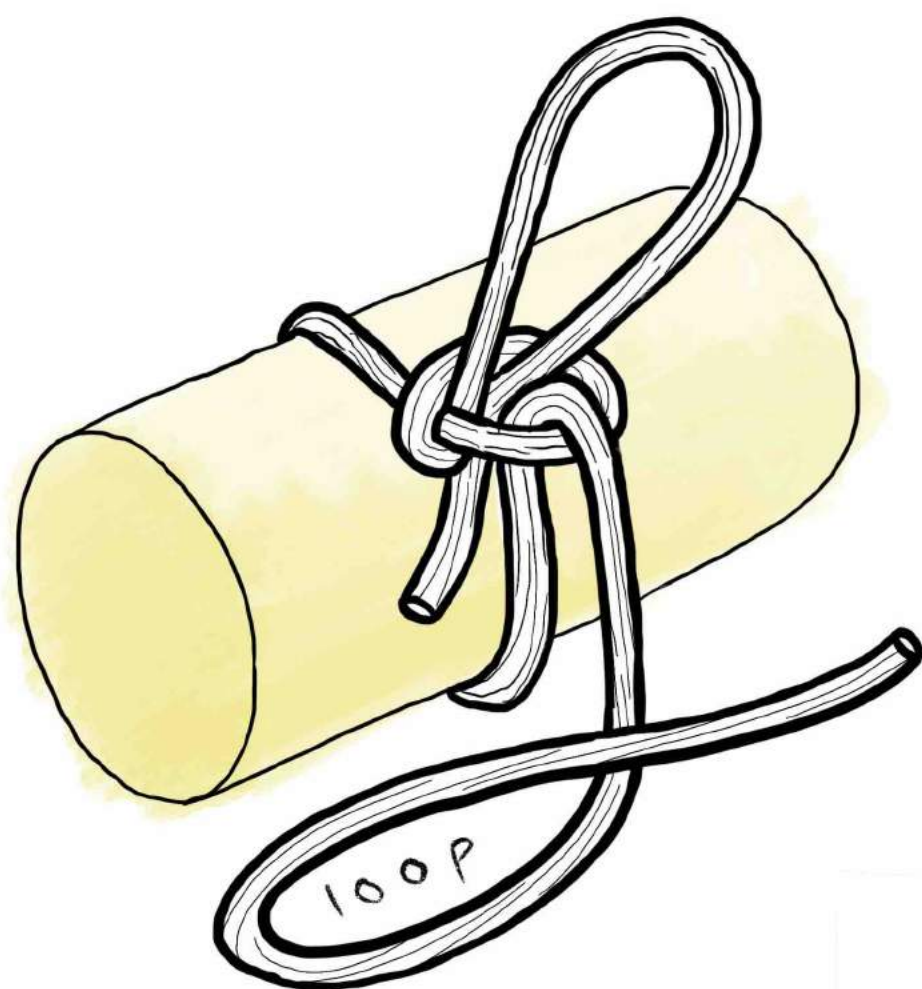
AND OUT AGAIN !



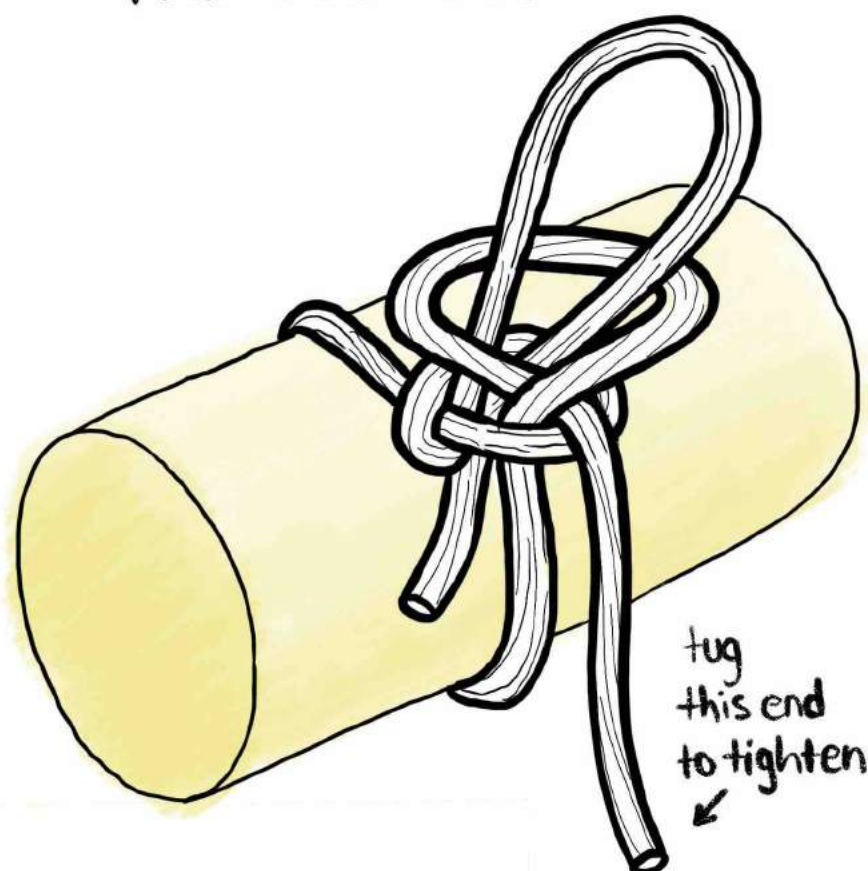
THIS IS WHAT IT  
WILL LOOK LIKE WHEN  
YOU STOP HALLUCINATING...



NOW YOU CAN 'LOCK'  
IT BY MAKING A LOOP



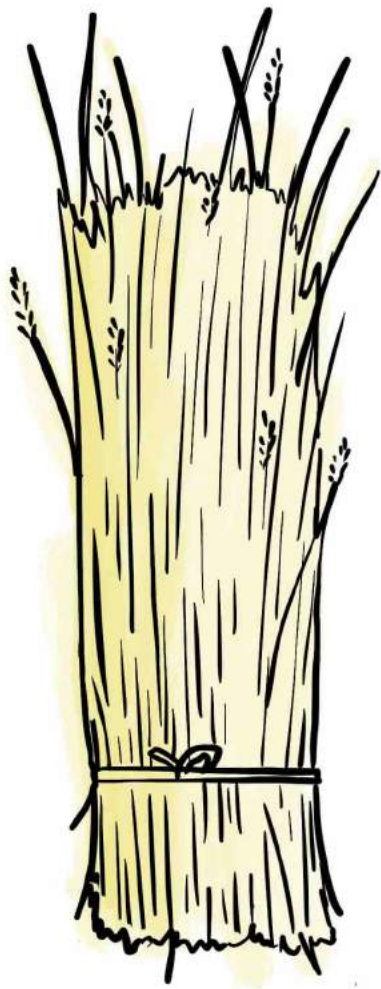
WHICH GOES OVER  
THE KNOT AND IS  
TIGHTENED



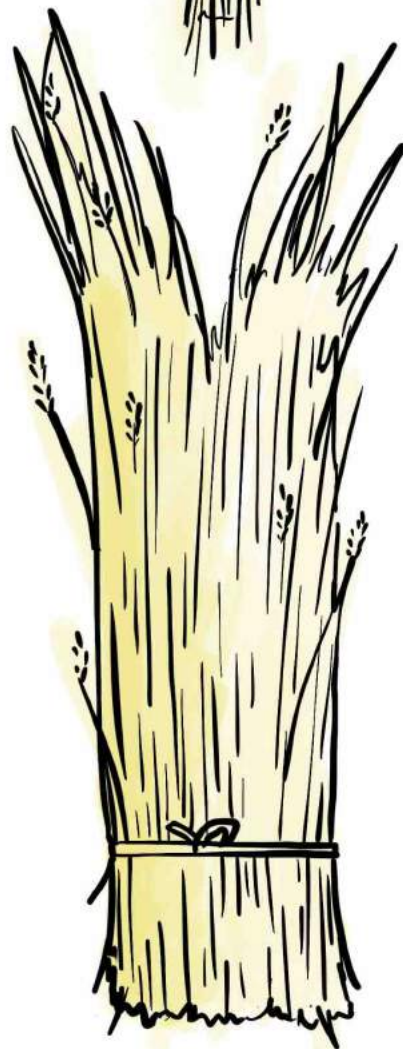
DETOUR ENDS



# WITH BUNNY KNOW HOW, WE CAN ALSO MAKE RIDGE ROLLS



BEGIN WITH  
A BEAUTIFUL  
BUNDLE  
OF JOY  
(AND STRAW)



SHOWER IT  
WITH ATTENTION,  
AFFECTION  
(AND STRAW)



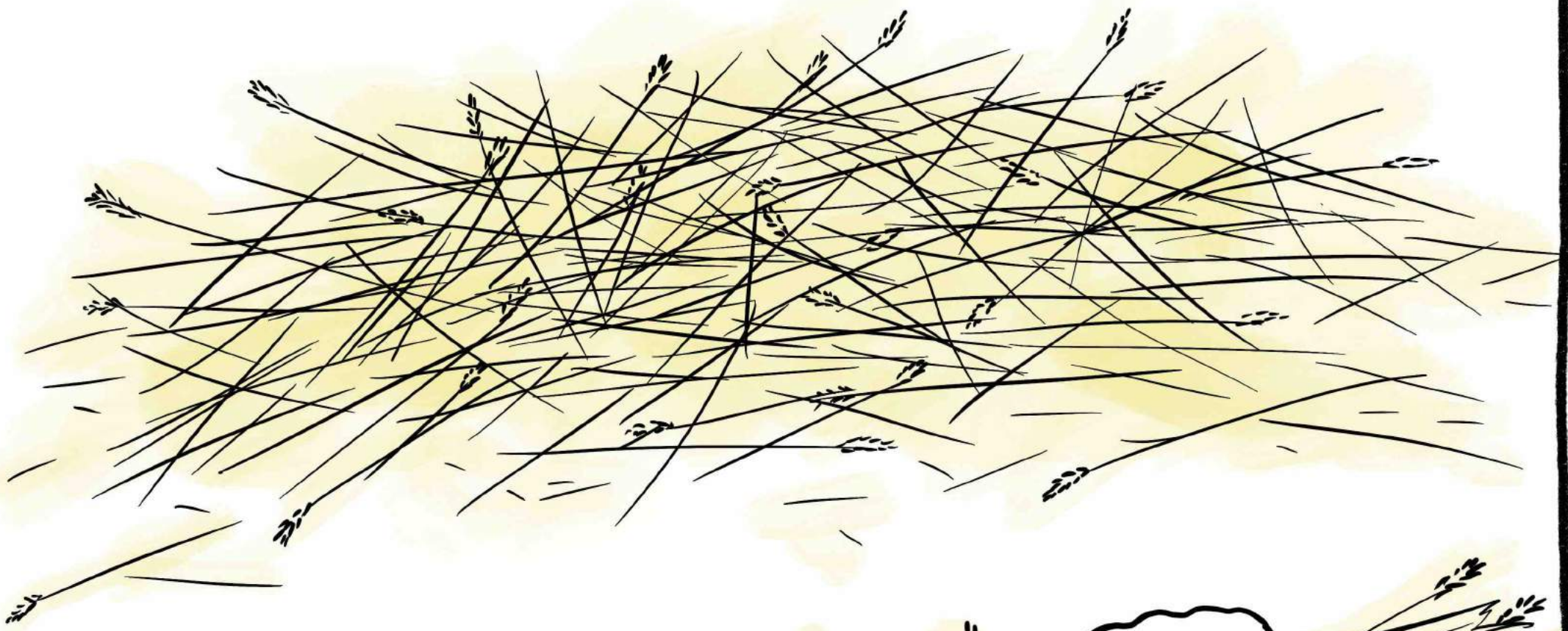
GO ON,



TA-DAA !



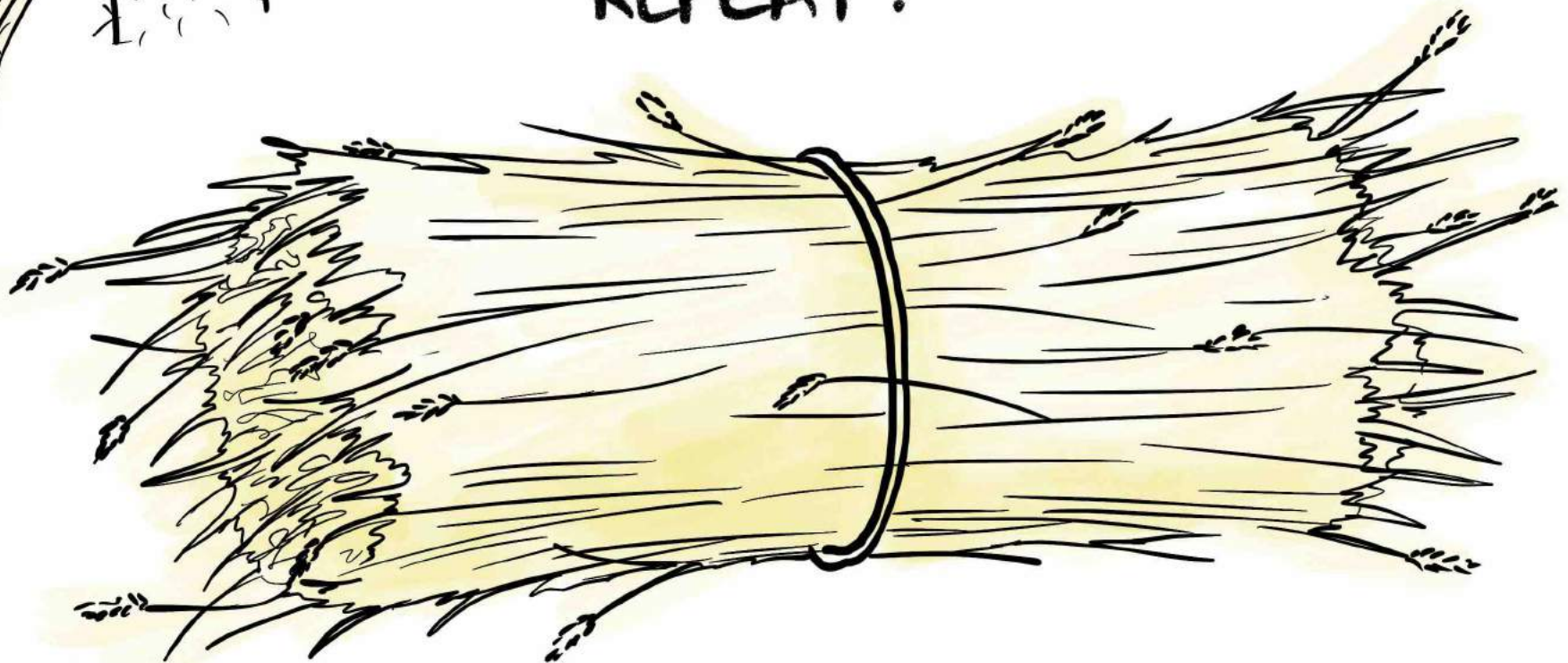
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT ALL, A TANGLE  
OF STRAW WILL BUILD UP AROUND YOU..



SO LET'S  
SORT IT  
OUT!



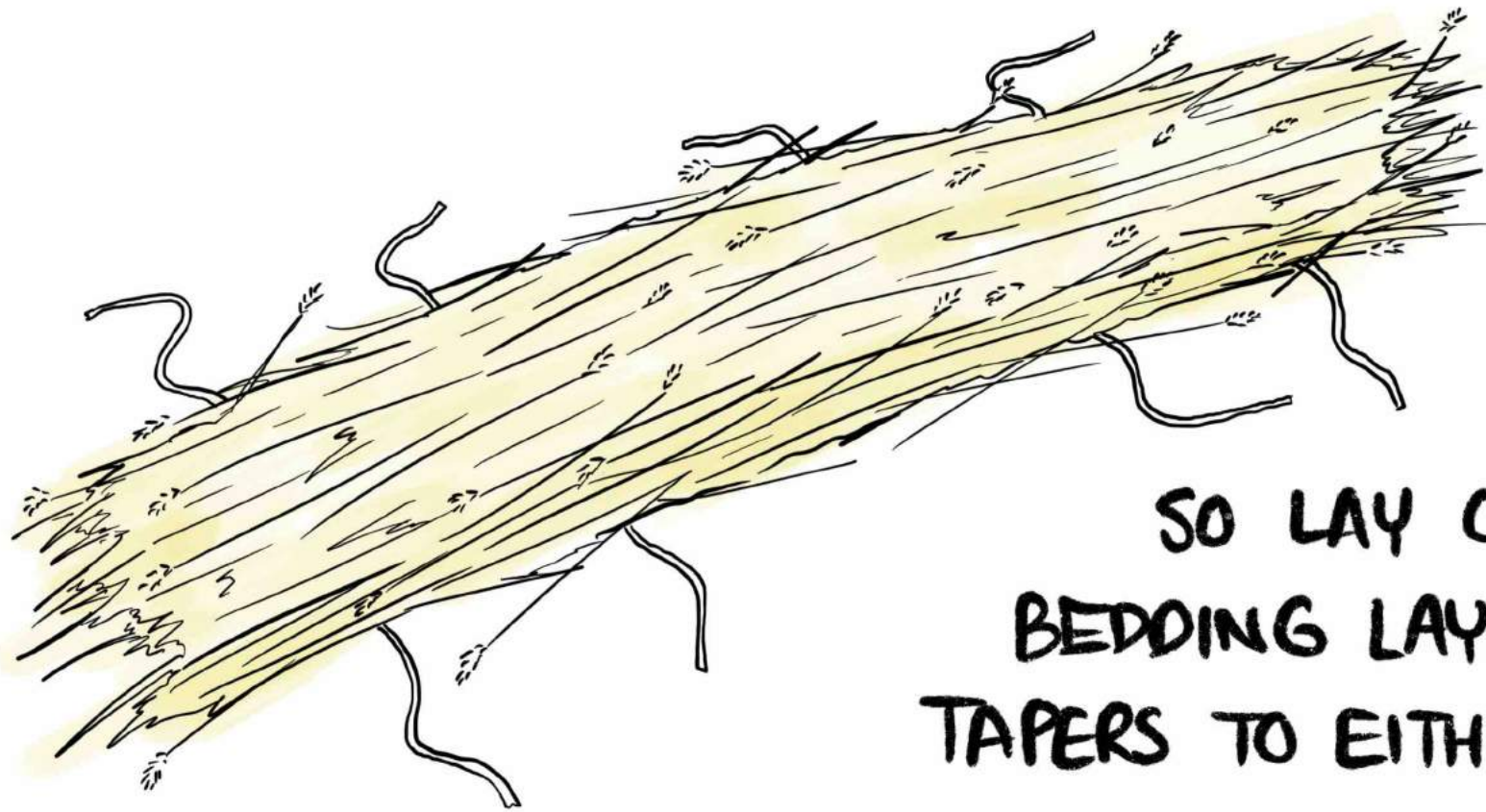
TAKE A HANDFUL,  
GRAB EITHER ENDS,  
TUG & FLAP AROUND,  
REPEAT.



NOW WE HAVE BUNDLES OF 'TWO-WAY' STRAW  
THAT CAN BE USED AS PACKING, OR ...

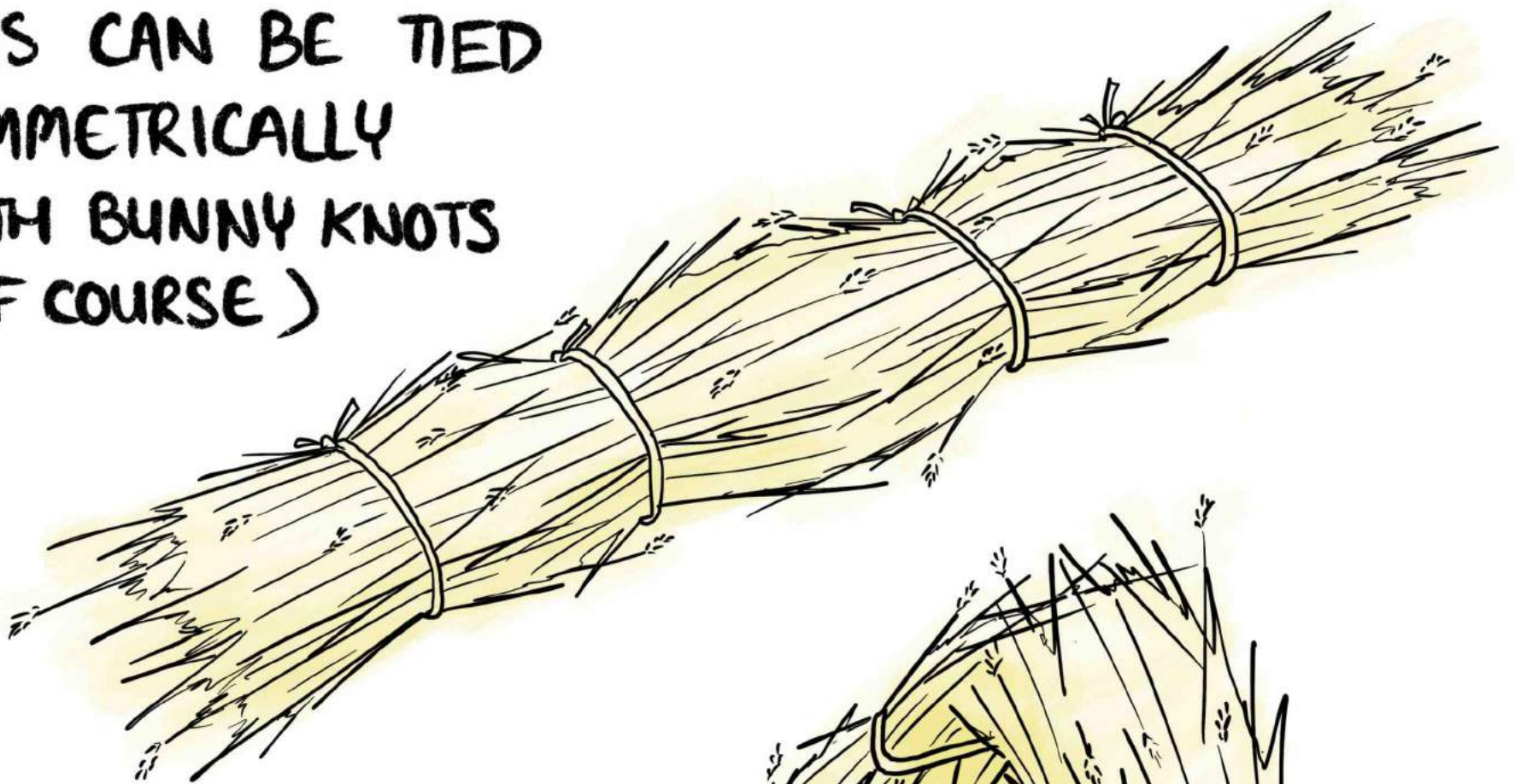


... STUFF TO MAKE : RIDGE WRAPS!



SO LAY OUT A  
BEDDING LAYER THAT  
TAPERS TO EITHER END

THIS CAN BE TIED  
SYMMETRICALLY  
( WITH BUNNY KNOTS  
OF COURSE )



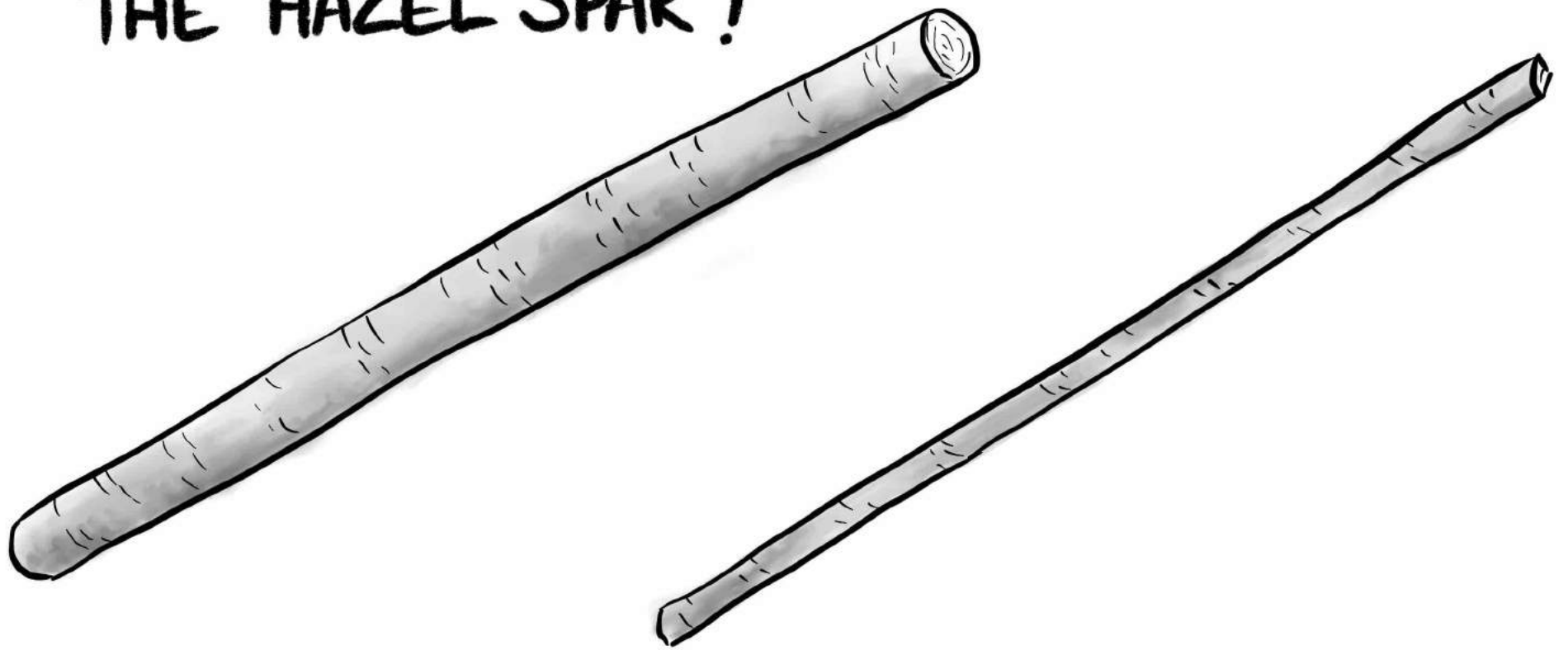
WHICH CAN THEN  
BE FOLDED TO PLACE  
ON THE ROOF RIDGE



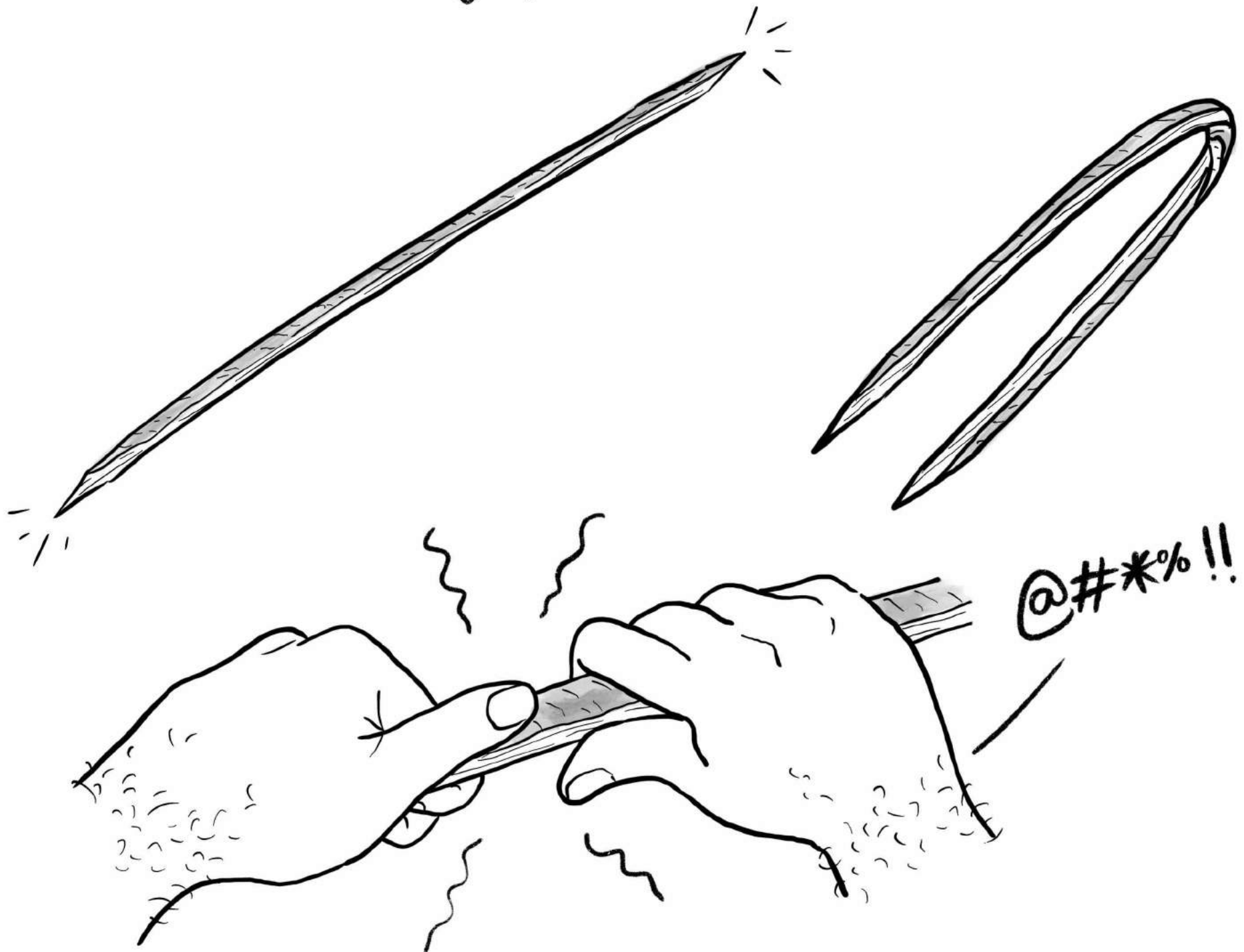
WE'RE DONE WITH THE STRAW PREP!  
NOW ALL WE NEED IS SOMETHING  
THAT WILL HOLD IT ALL IN PLACE...



BEHOLD, THE NEMESIS OF NEWBIES,  
THE HAZEL SPAR!



HAZEL LENGTHS ARE CUT, SPLIT, SHARPENED  
AND THEN (gulp) TWISTED INTO SPARS



NOW, WE'RE READY TO START THATCHING!  
BUT FIRST, WE GEAR UP.



# MEET THE TOOLS

SHEARS

KNIFE

SHEARING  
HOOK

LEGGET

SET  
PIN

LADDER

'TWISTY'

CROOKS

STEEL  
ROD

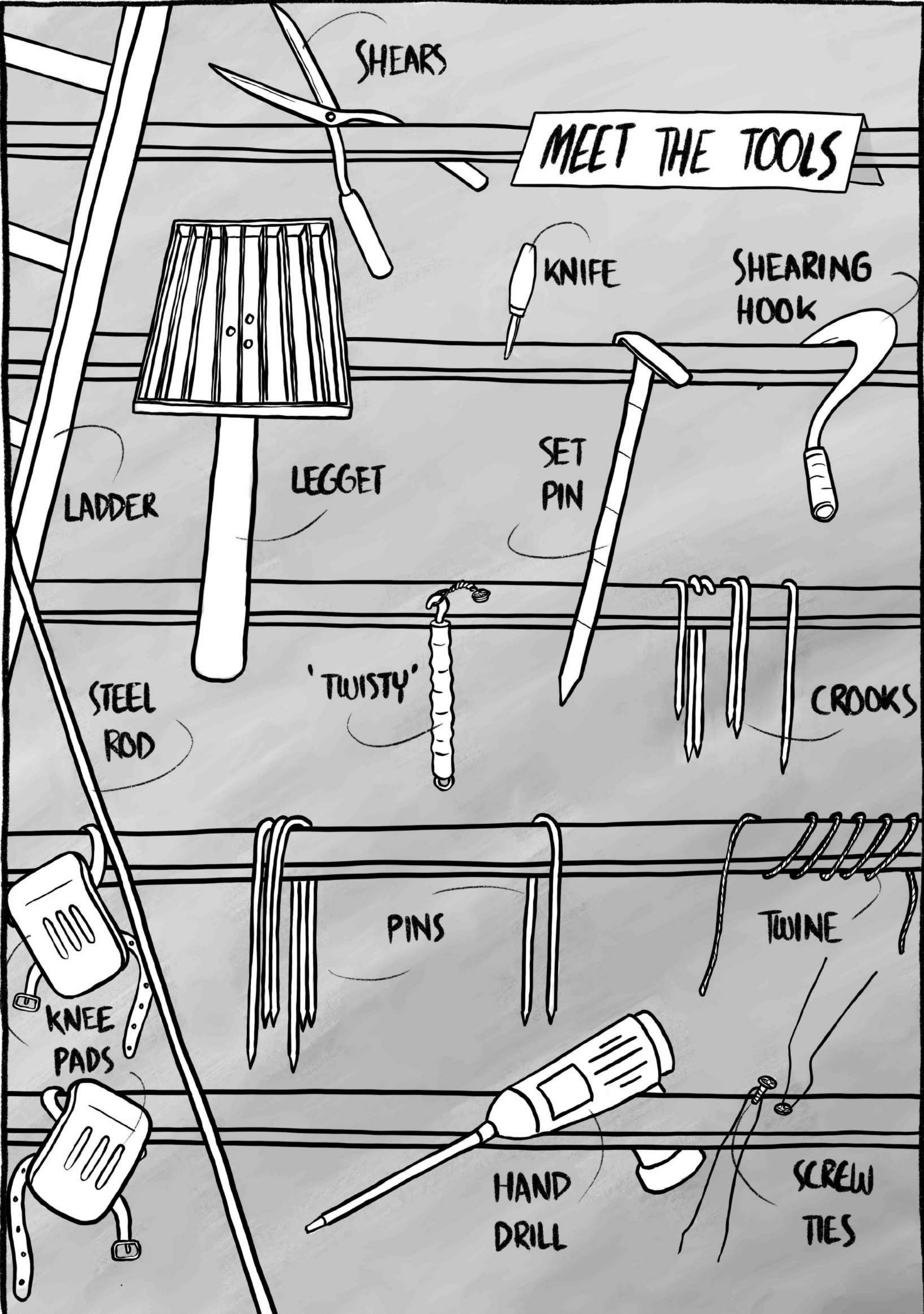
PINS

TWINE

KNEE  
PADS

HAND  
DRILL

SCREW  
TIES

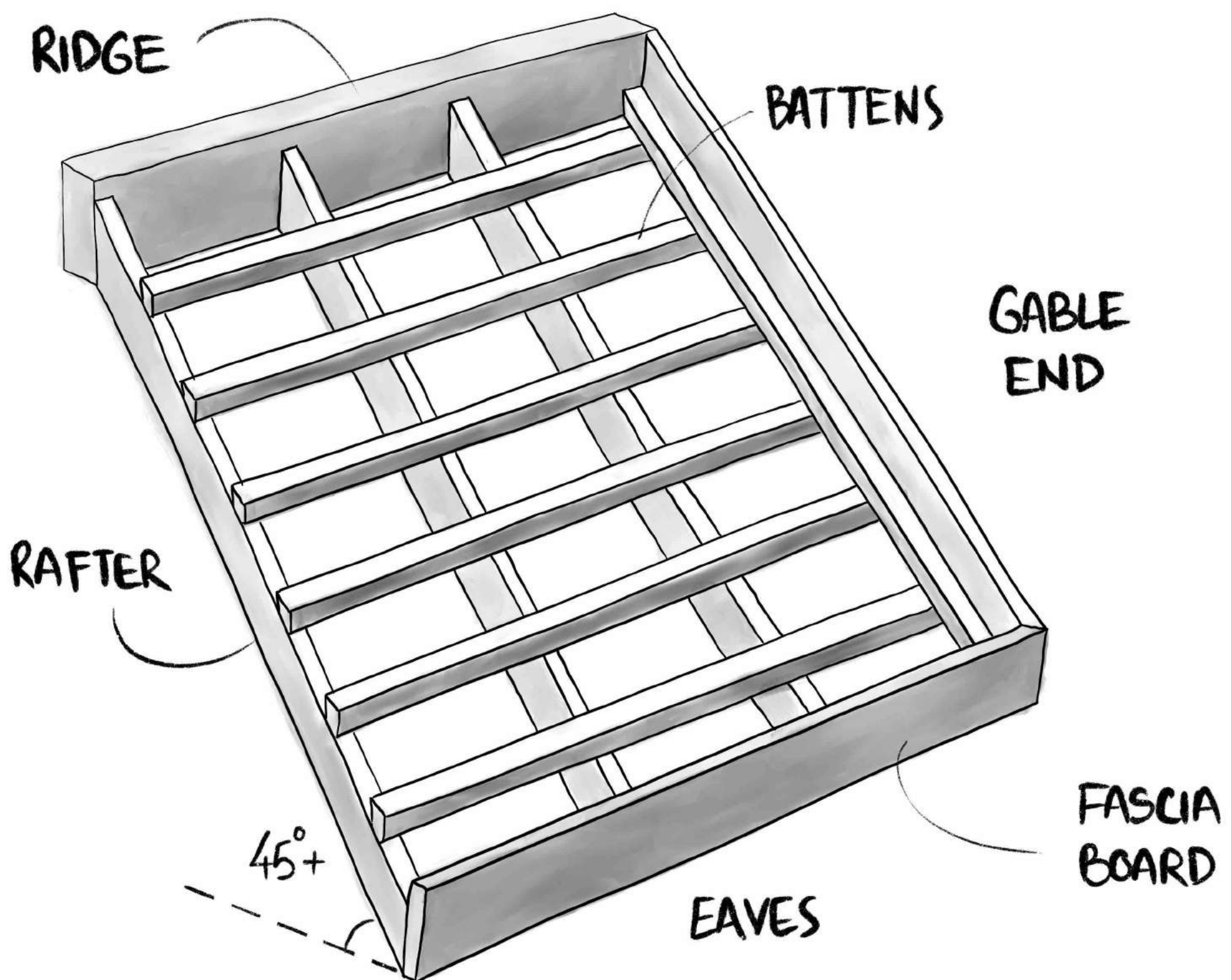




WITH TOOLS IN OUR HANDS (AND PEACE  
IN OUR HEART) WE NOW GAZE UPON  
(dramatic music in the background)

THE. ROOF.

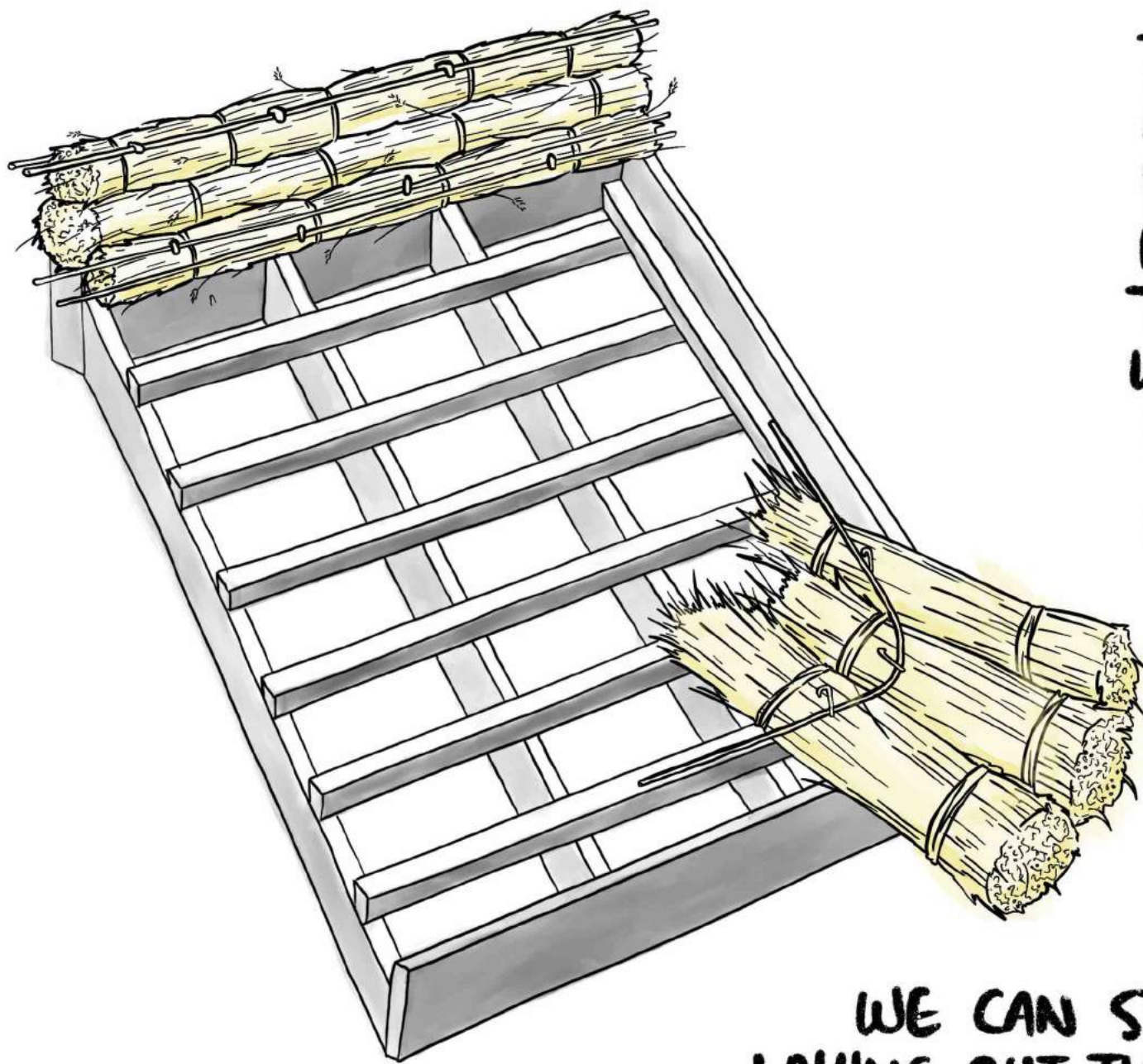
HERE'S A QUICK LOOK AT WHO'S WHO :



COOL.

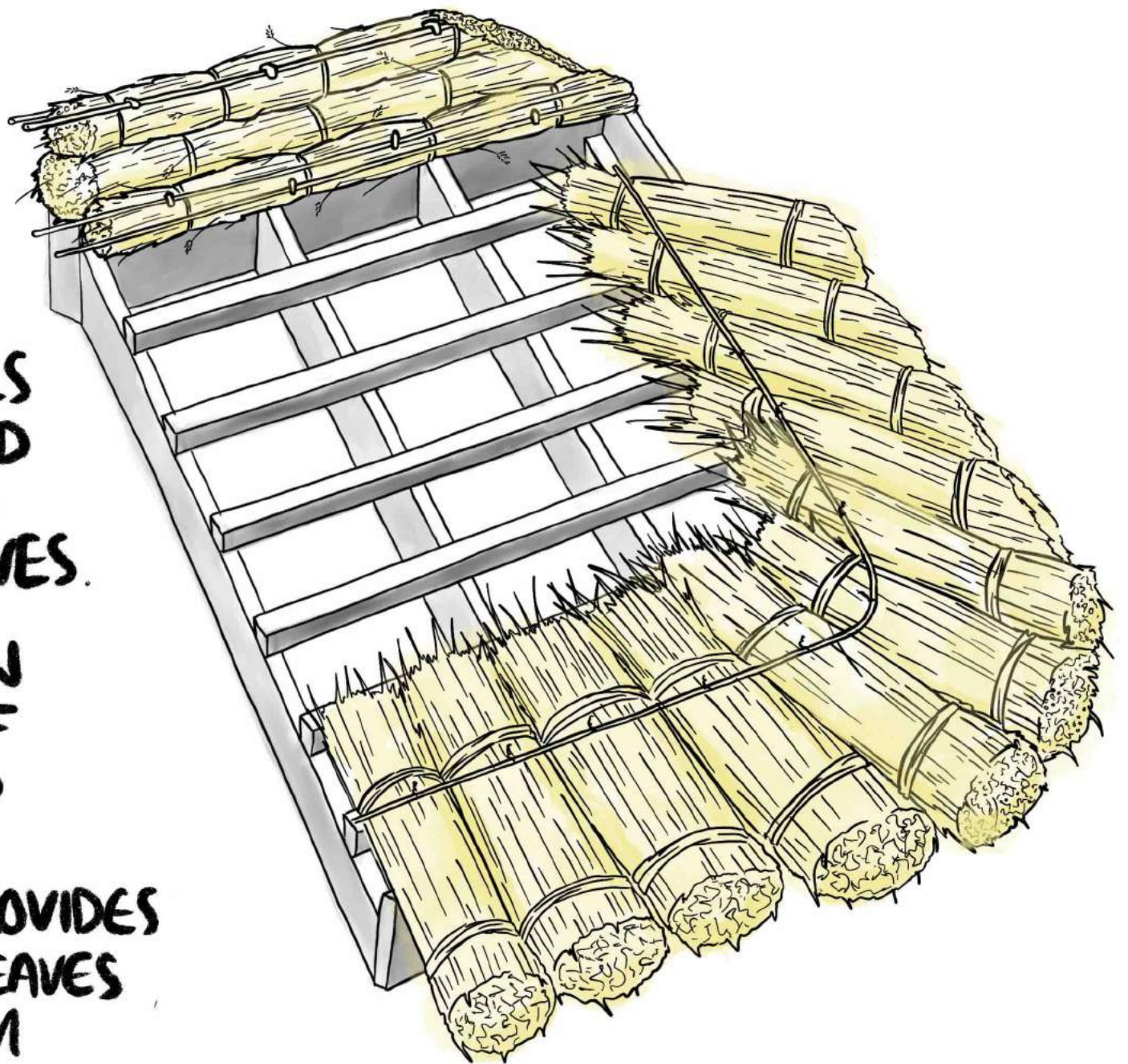
LET'S PLAY.





THE RIDGE ROLLS  
ARE FIXED TO THE  
FRAME WITH A  
METAL BAR & CROOKS.  
THIS PROVIDES US  
WITH A VISUAL  
REFERENCE  
(and a Finish Line  
of sorts)

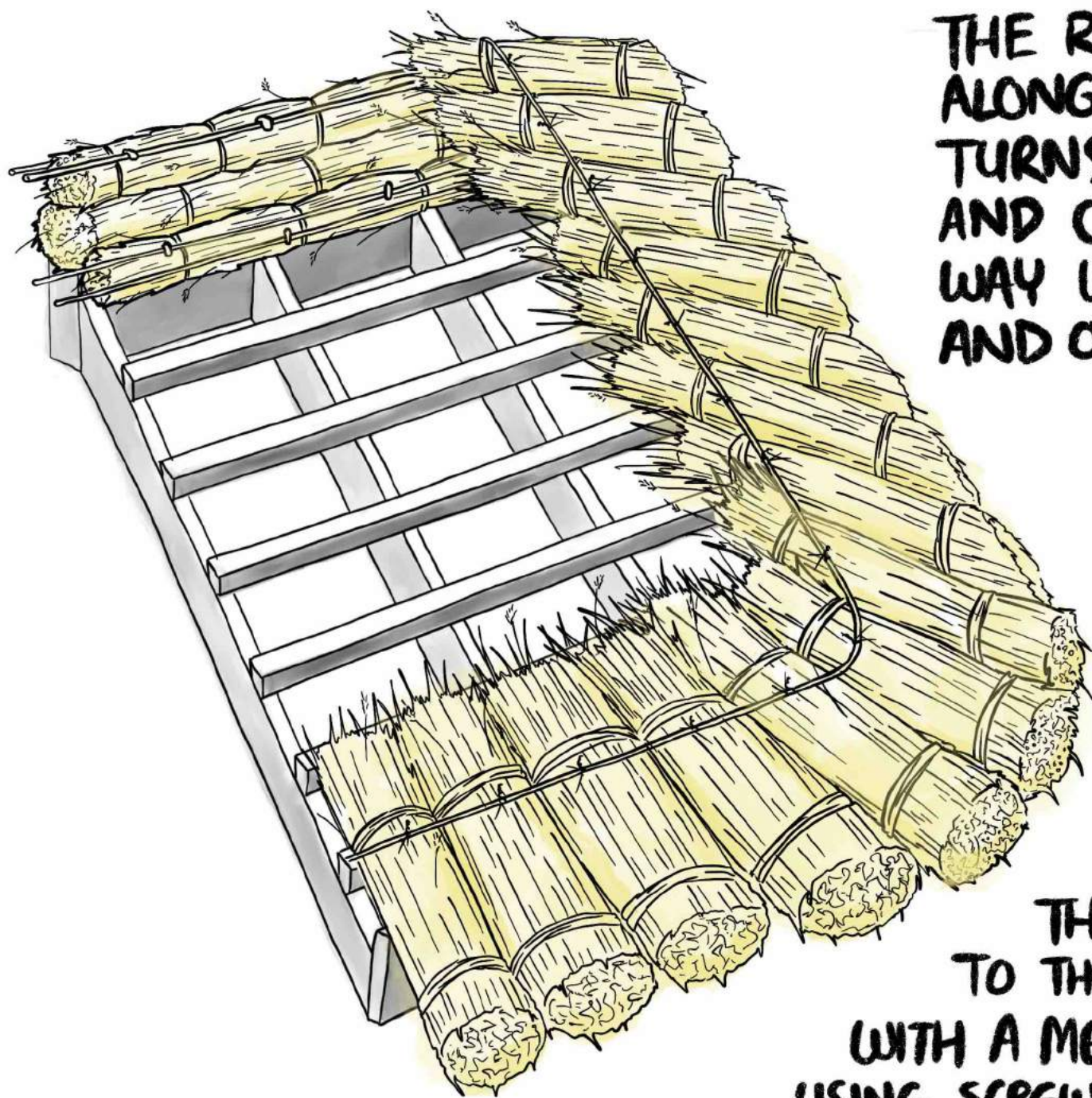
WE CAN START  
LAYING OUT THE  
EAVES WADS NOW



THE RIDGE ROLLS  
CAN BE TRIMMED  
AND SHAPED TO  
TAKE ON THE EAVES.

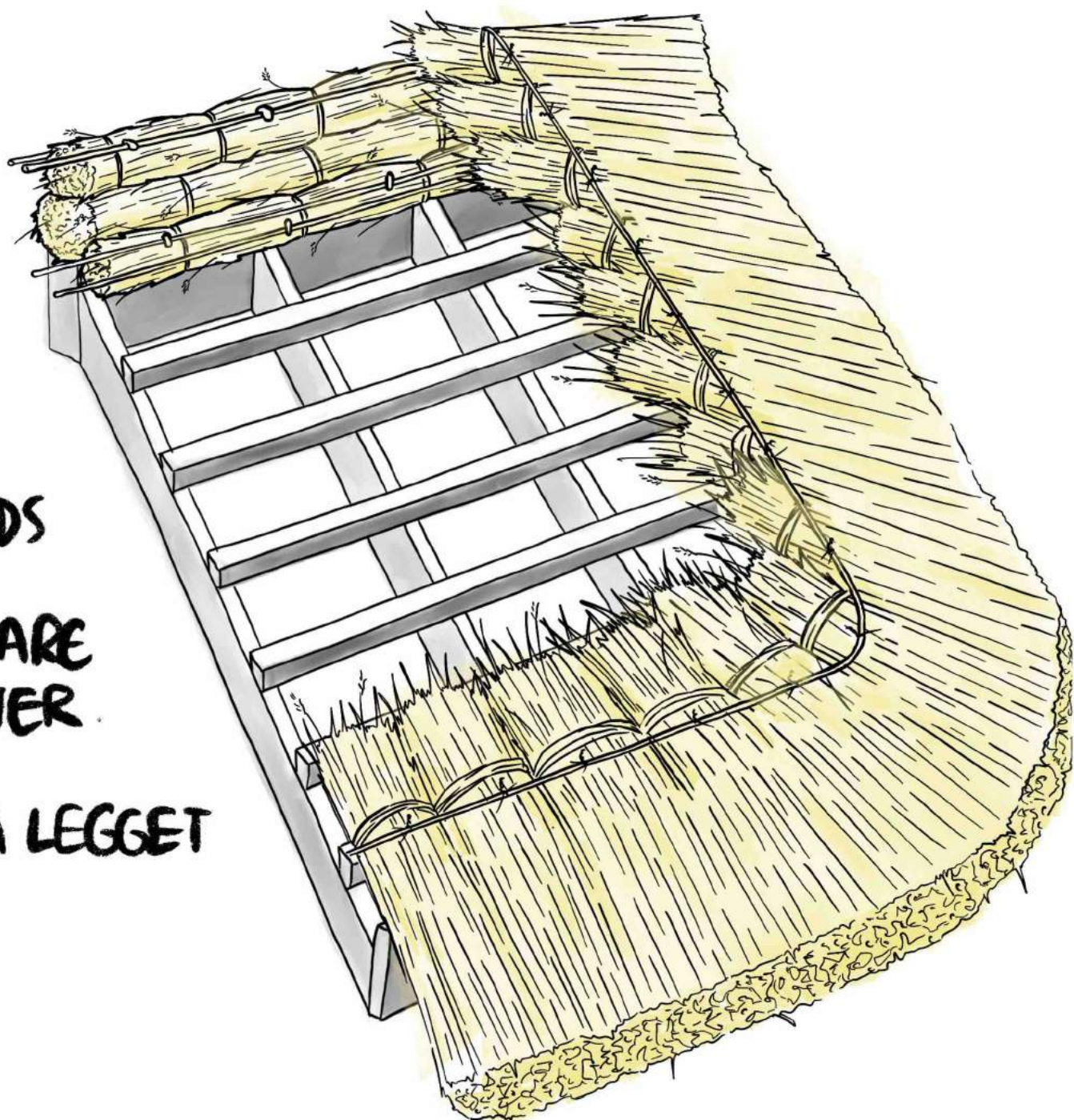
KEEP AN EYE ON  
THE DIRECTION OF  
THE REED AND  
NOTE HOW THE  
FASCIA BOARD PROVIDES  
A 'KICK' TO THE EAVES  
BY RAISING THEM





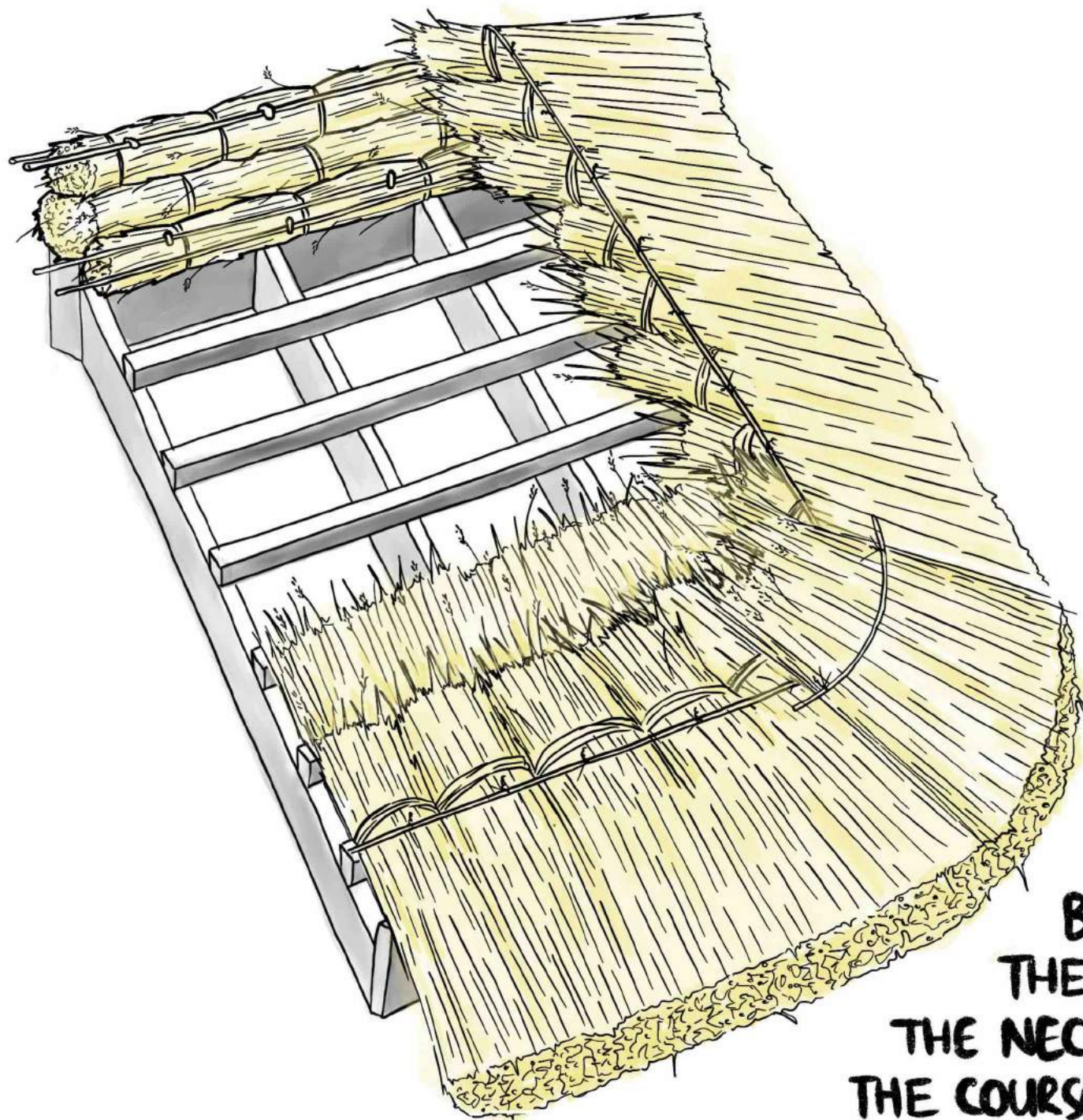
THE REED IS STRAIGHT  
ALONG THE EAVES,  
TURNS AT THE CORNER  
AND CLIMBS ALL THE  
WAY UP THE GABLE  
AND OVER THE RIDGE ROLLS

THE WADS ARE TIED  
TO THE FRAME BELOW  
WITH A METAL BAR FIXED  
USING SCREW TIES



THE STRAW BONDS  
ARE CUT OPEN  
AND THE WADS ARE  
MARRIED TOGETHER.  
THE ENDS ARE  
DRESSED USING A LEGGET





SINCE THE WADS  
TEND TO FAN OUT  
AT THE CORNERS,  
A HALF-COURSE  
CAN HELP WITH  
MAINTAINING THE  
SAME THICKNESS

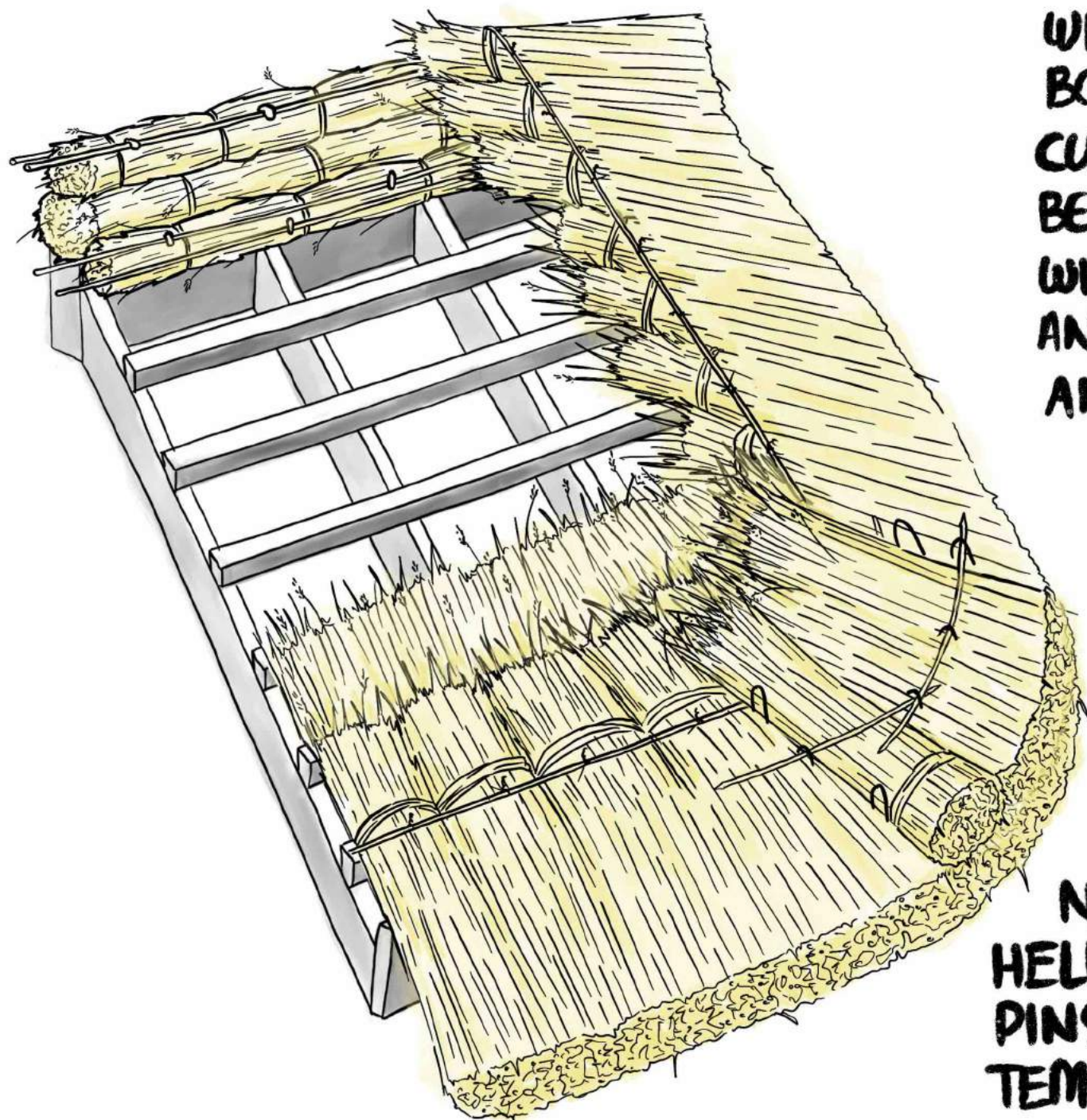
BACKFILL BEHIND  
THE COURSE PROVIDES  
THE NECESSARY 'KICK' TO  
THE COURSE AND TAKES OUT VOIDS

WE CAN START WITH  
THE BROW COURSE.  
THE REED IS HELD  
IN PLACE TEMPORARILY  
BY USING PINS AND  
LENGTHS OF HAZEL



THE SET PIN HELPS  
LOCATE THE ROOFING  
MEMBERS HIDDEN  
UNDER THE STRAW



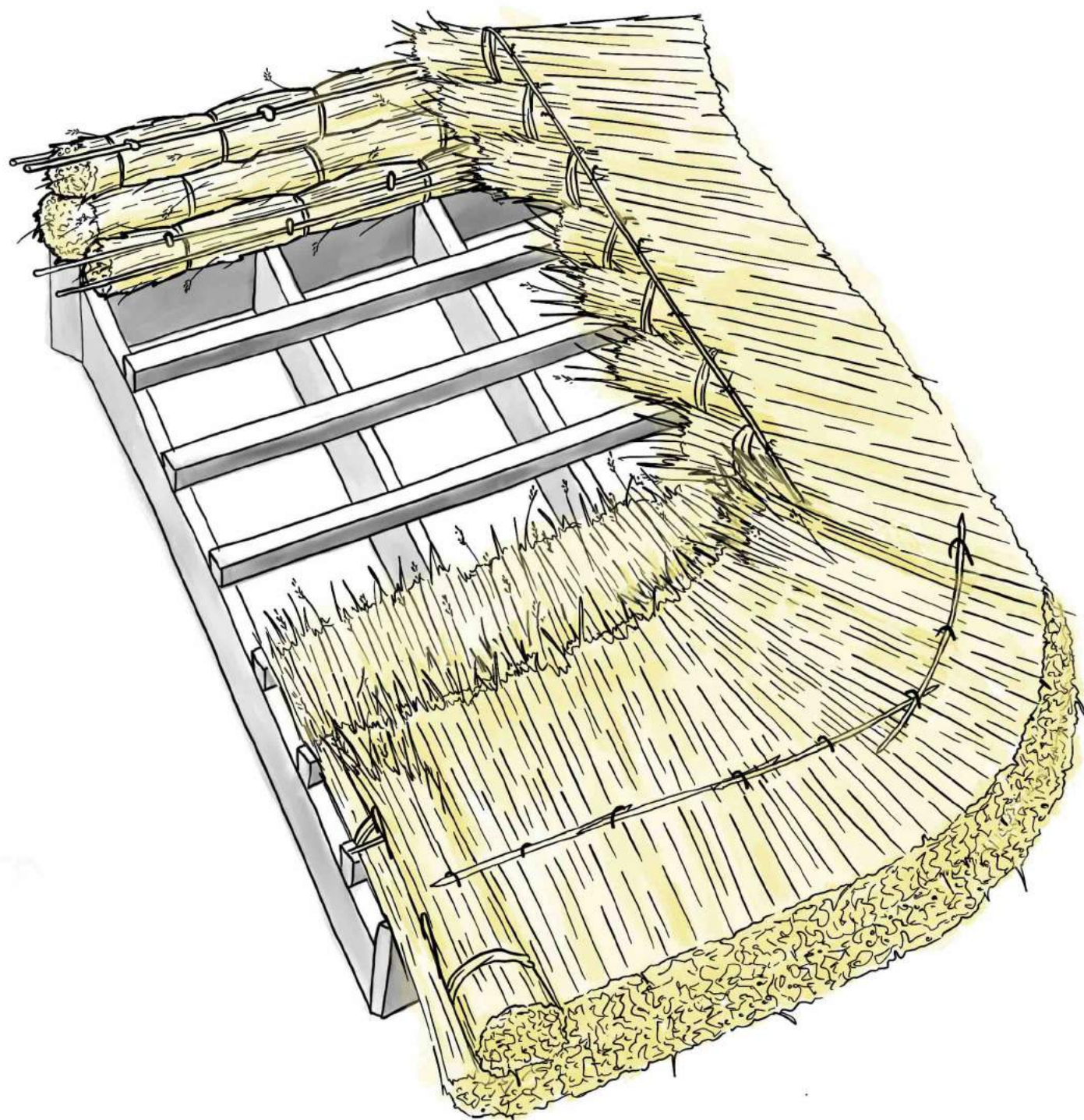


WITH THE STRAW  
BONDS ON THE PACKS  
CUT OPEN, THEY CAN  
BE MARRIED TOGETHER  
WHILE MAINTAINING  
AN EVEN THICKNESS  
AND CONSISTENCY

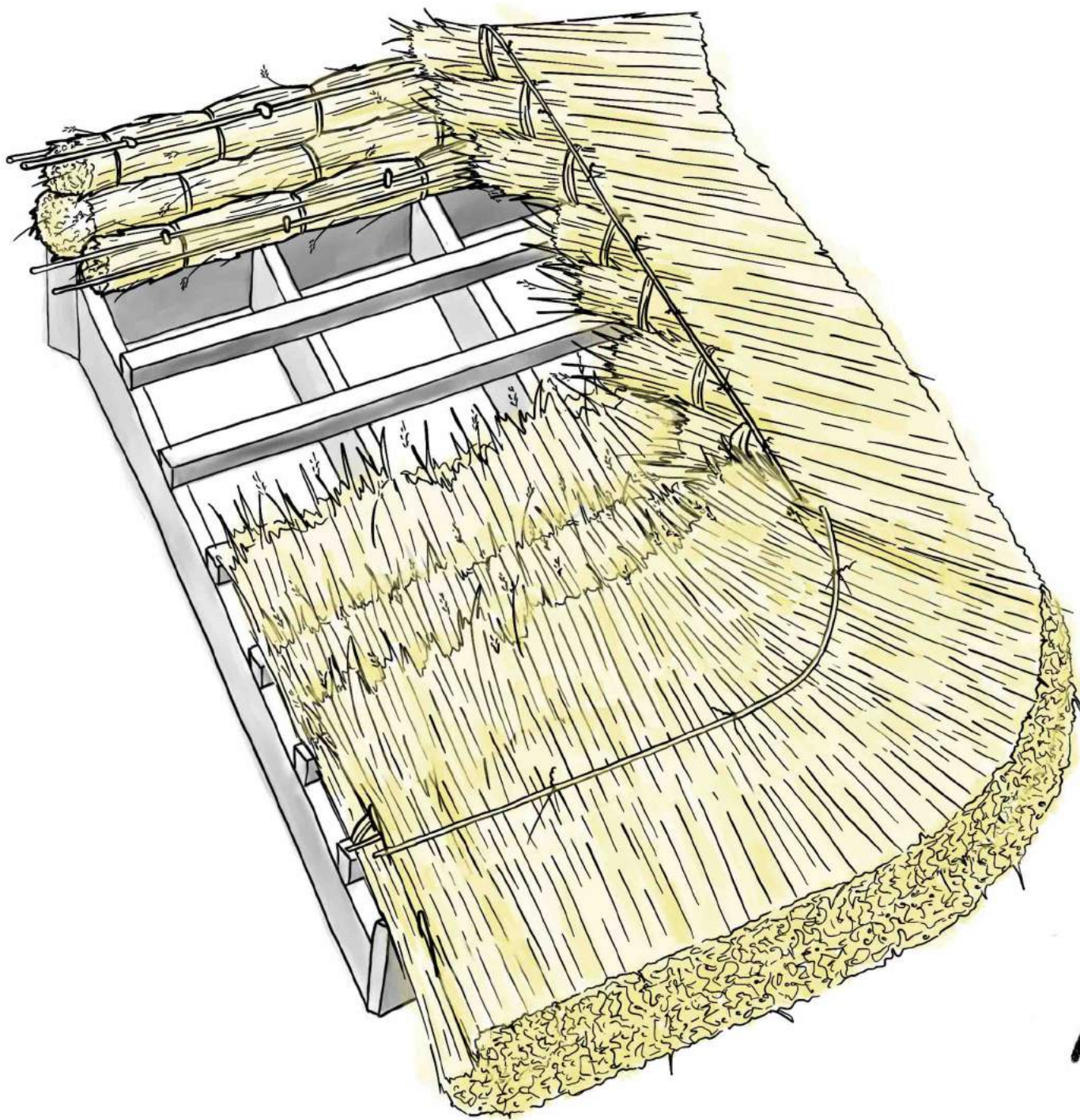
A NEW PACK CAN  
NOW BE PLACED AND  
HELD DOWN BY THE  
PINS AND HAZEL  
TEMPORARILY

THE WHOLE  
COURSE CAN  
BE LAID OUT  
IN THE SAME  
WAY WHILE  
KEEPING A  
STEADY LINE  
& RHYTHM

KEEP IT WELL  
DRESSED.  
BE SUAVE, USE  
A LEGGET

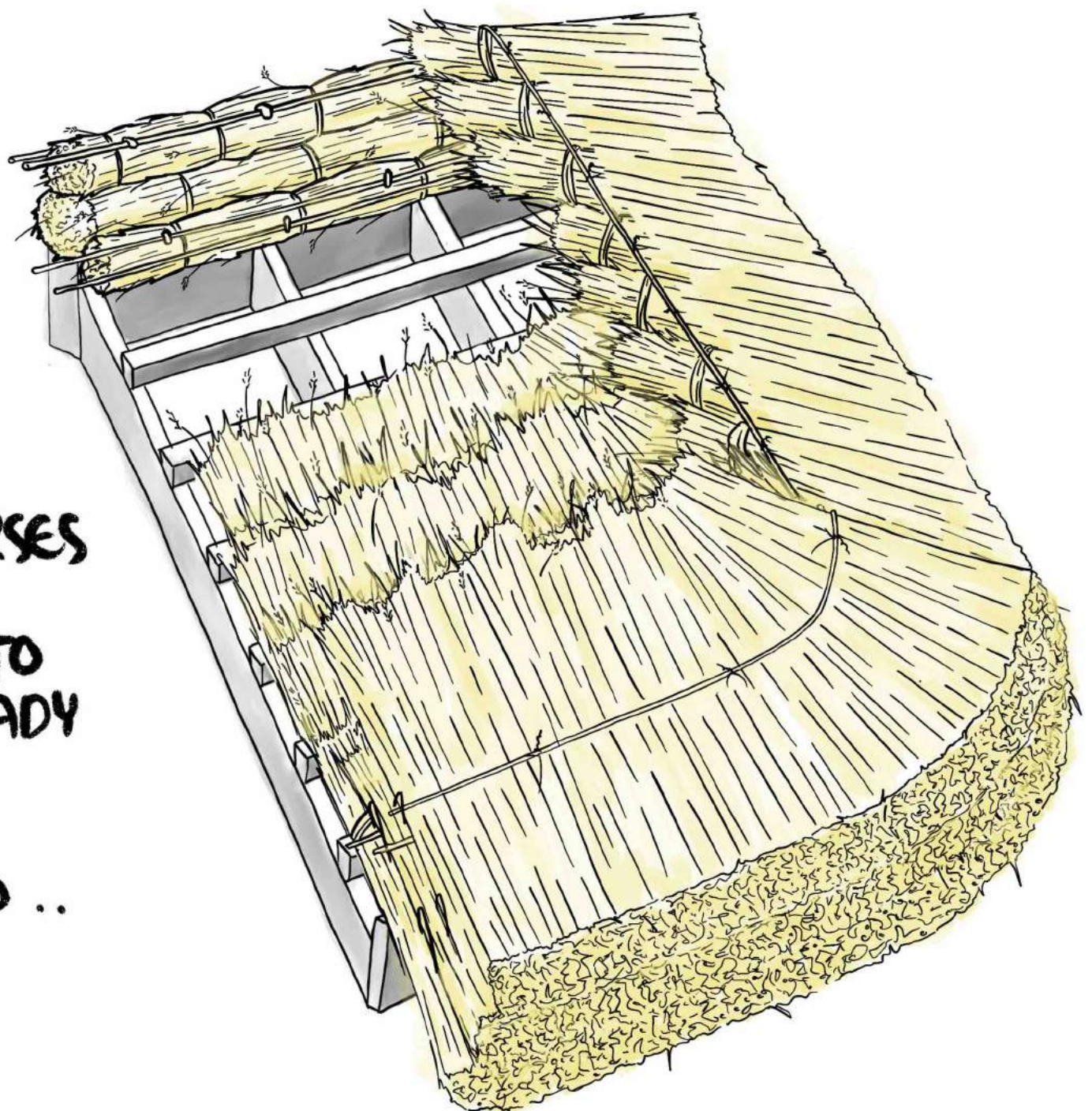






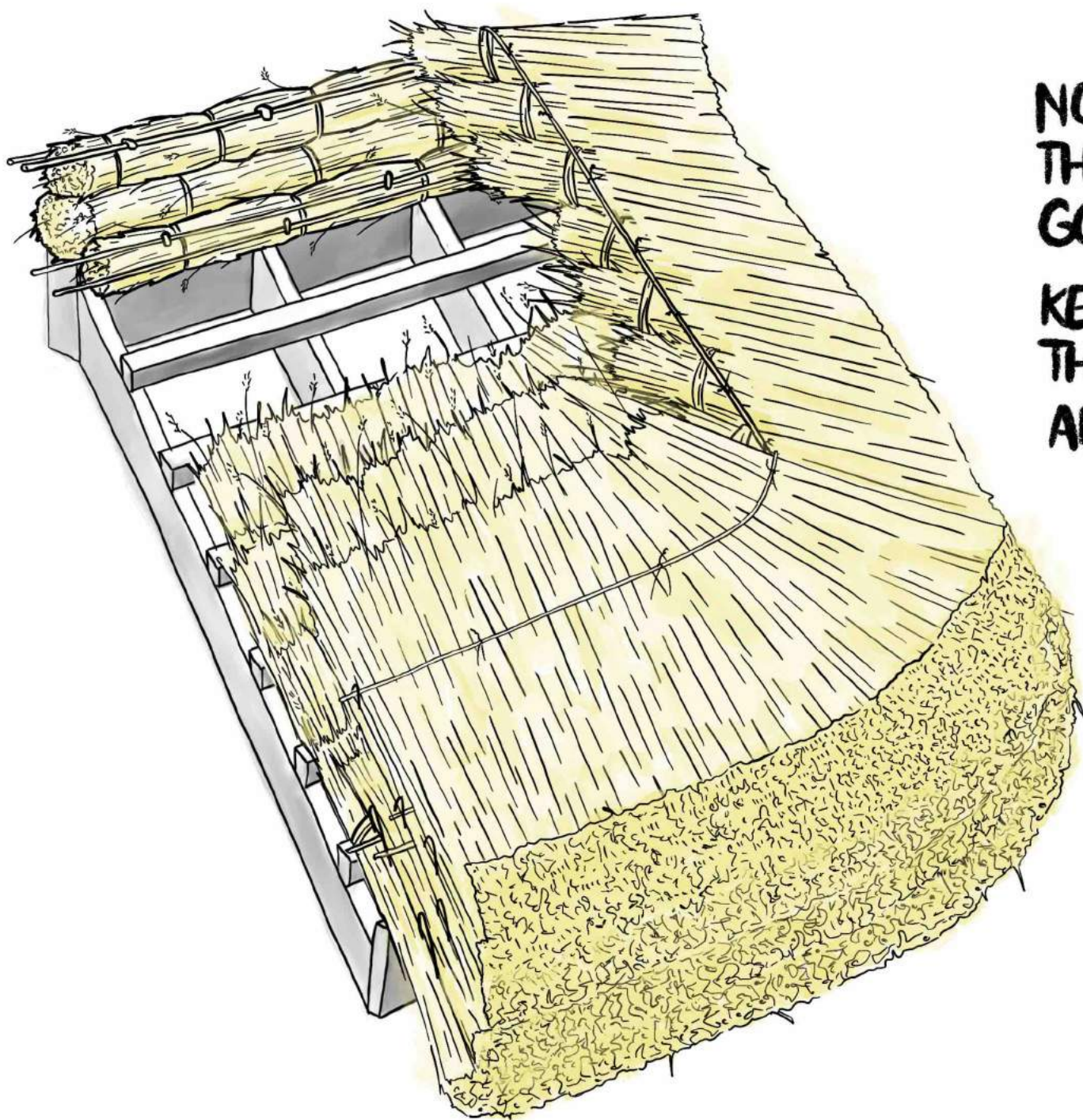
ONCE YOU'RE  
PLEASED WITH  
THE RESULT,  
FIX THE COURSE  
PERMANENTLY  
BY SENDING SCREW  
TIES INTO THE  
RAFTERS AND  
TIGHTENING THEM  
WITH 'TWISTY'

KEEP CALM  
&  
ADD BACKFILL



AFTER THE  
BROW IS READY,  
ALL THE  
SUCCESSIVE COURSES  
START SLOPING  
BACK IN ORDER TO  
MAINTAIN A STEADY  
PITCH.  
THE LEGGET IS  
OUR BEST FRIEND ..





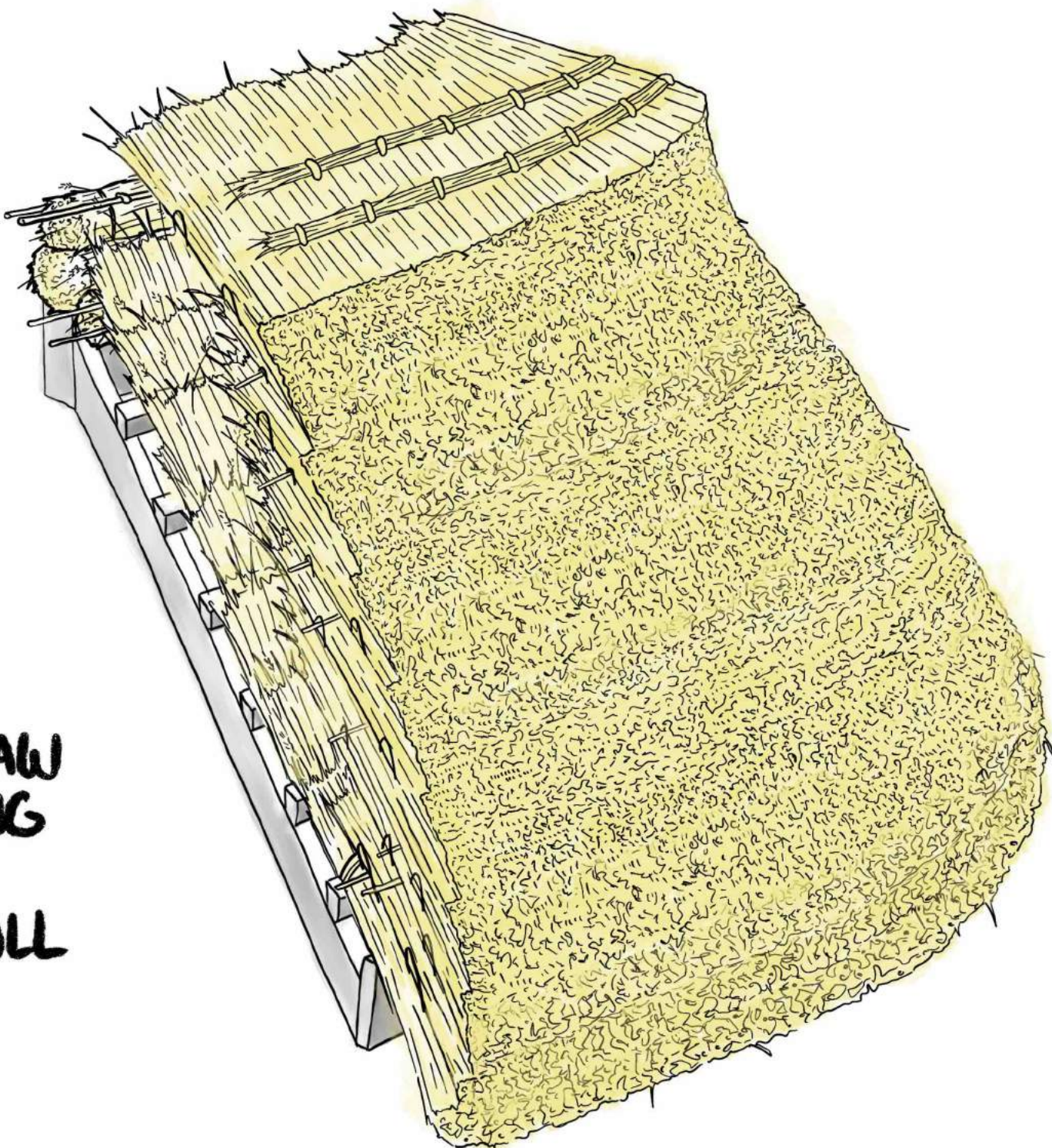
NOW THAT YOU KNOW  
THE DRILL,  
GO FOR IT!

KEEP ADDING COURSES  
THAT ARE LEVEL  
AND CONSISTENT

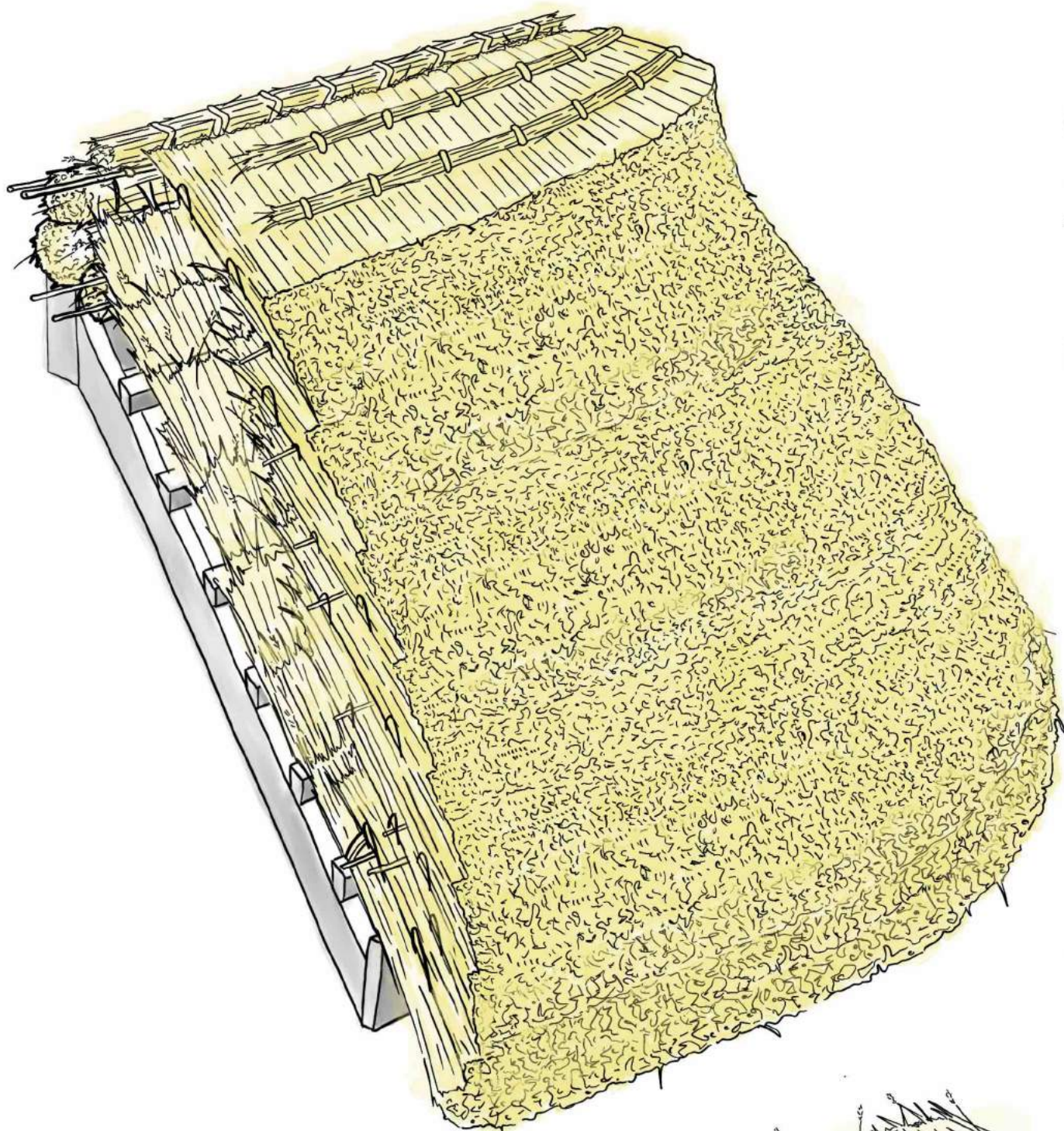
THE SET PIN  
CAN BE DIPPED  
INTO THE COAT  
TO KEEP A TAB  
ON THE THICKNESS  
(12" OR 14" IS GREAT)

SLOWLY & STEADILY  
(FUELLED BY WHOLE  
WHEAT BREAD)  
WE MAKE OUR WAY  
RIGHT TO THE TOP!  
YAAAY !!

THIS COURSE CAN  
BE FIXED USING STRAW  
BONDS & BY DRIVING  
THE HAZEL SPARS  
INTO THE RIDGE ROLL

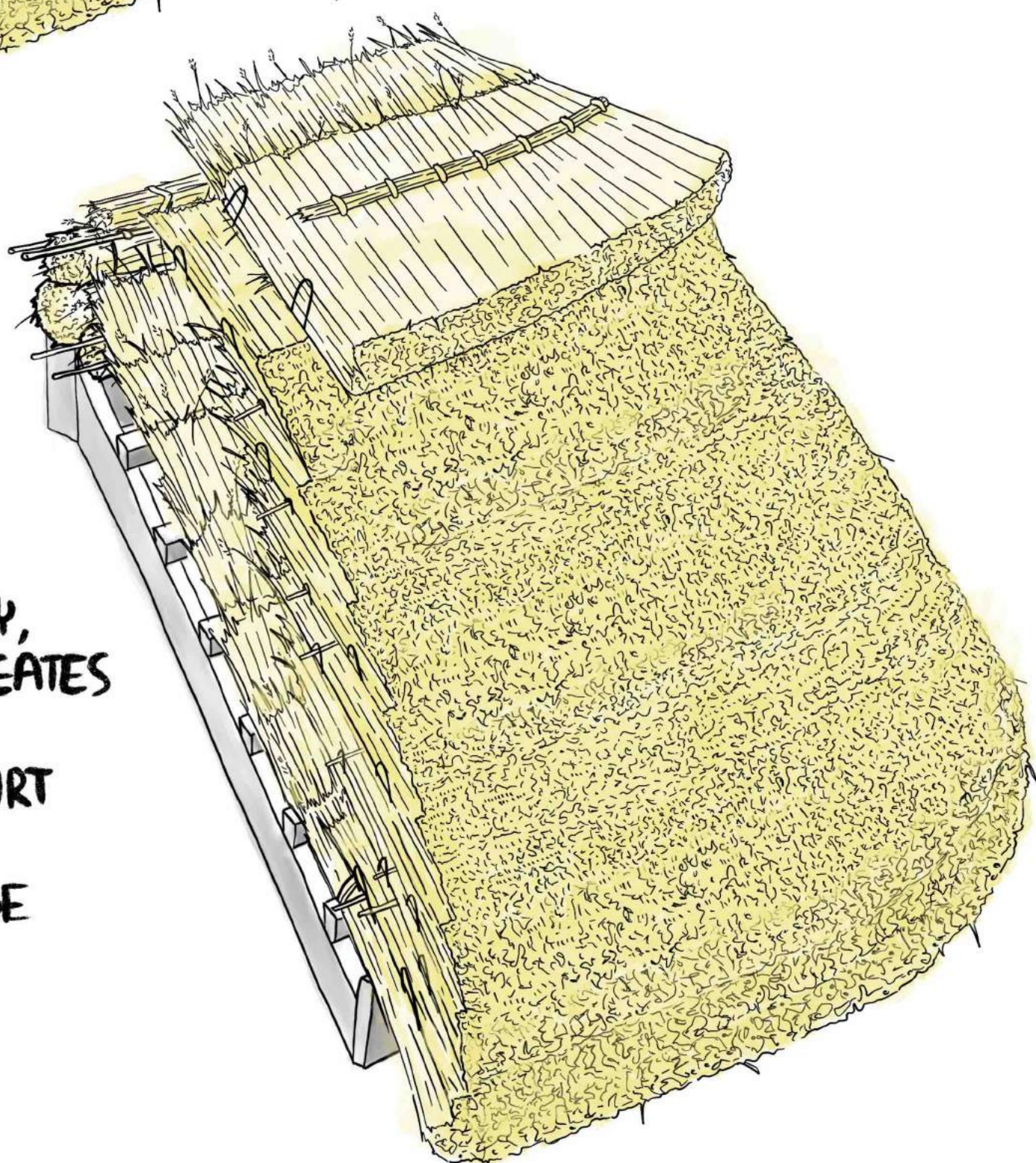






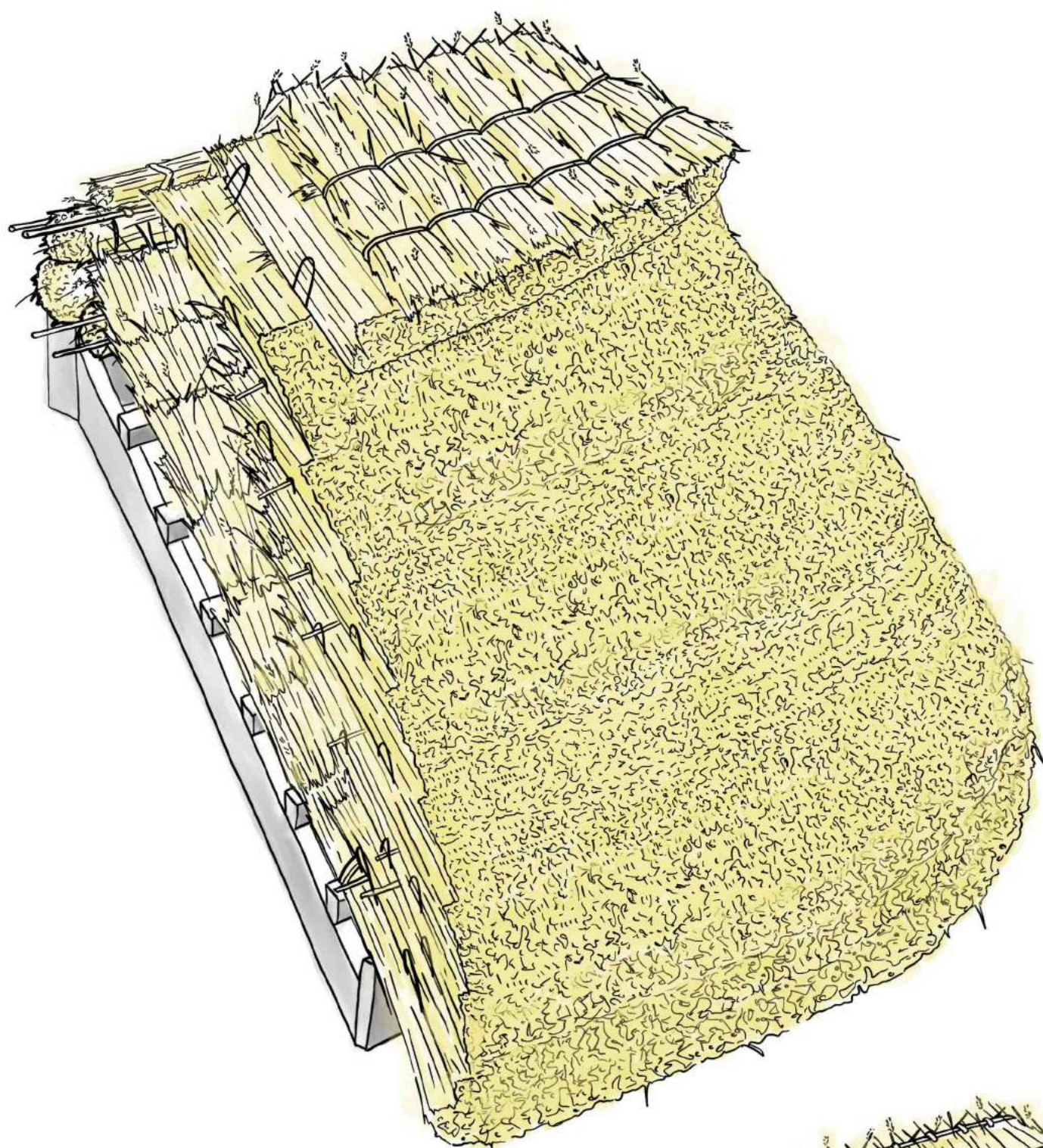
A LEVELLING RIDGE  
CAN NOW BE MADE  
IN SITU.  
THIS IS DONE BY  
FIXING STRAW  
HANDFULS USING  
HAZEL SPARS

WE'RE NOW READY  
TO LAY A SKIRT!



THIS STEP ISN'T  
STRICTLY NECESSARY,  
BUT IF DONE, CREATES  
A BLOCK RIDGE.  
WITHOUT THE SKIRT  
IT'D BE CALLED  
A FLUSHED RIDGE

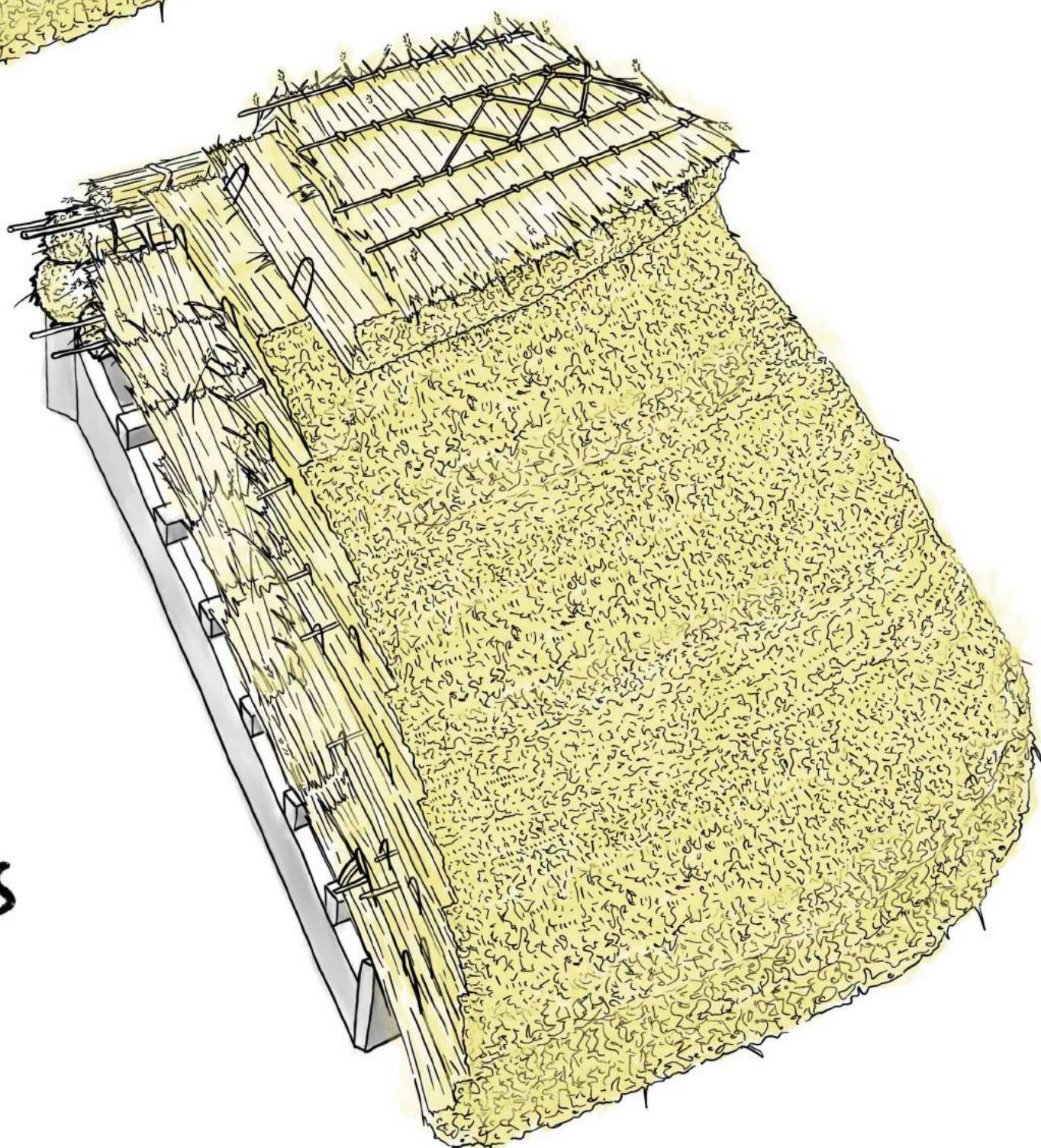




REMEMBER THE  
RIDGE WRAPS?  
THEY CAN NOW  
BE LAID OVER  
THE SKIRT AND  
HELD IN PLACE  
TEMPORARILY

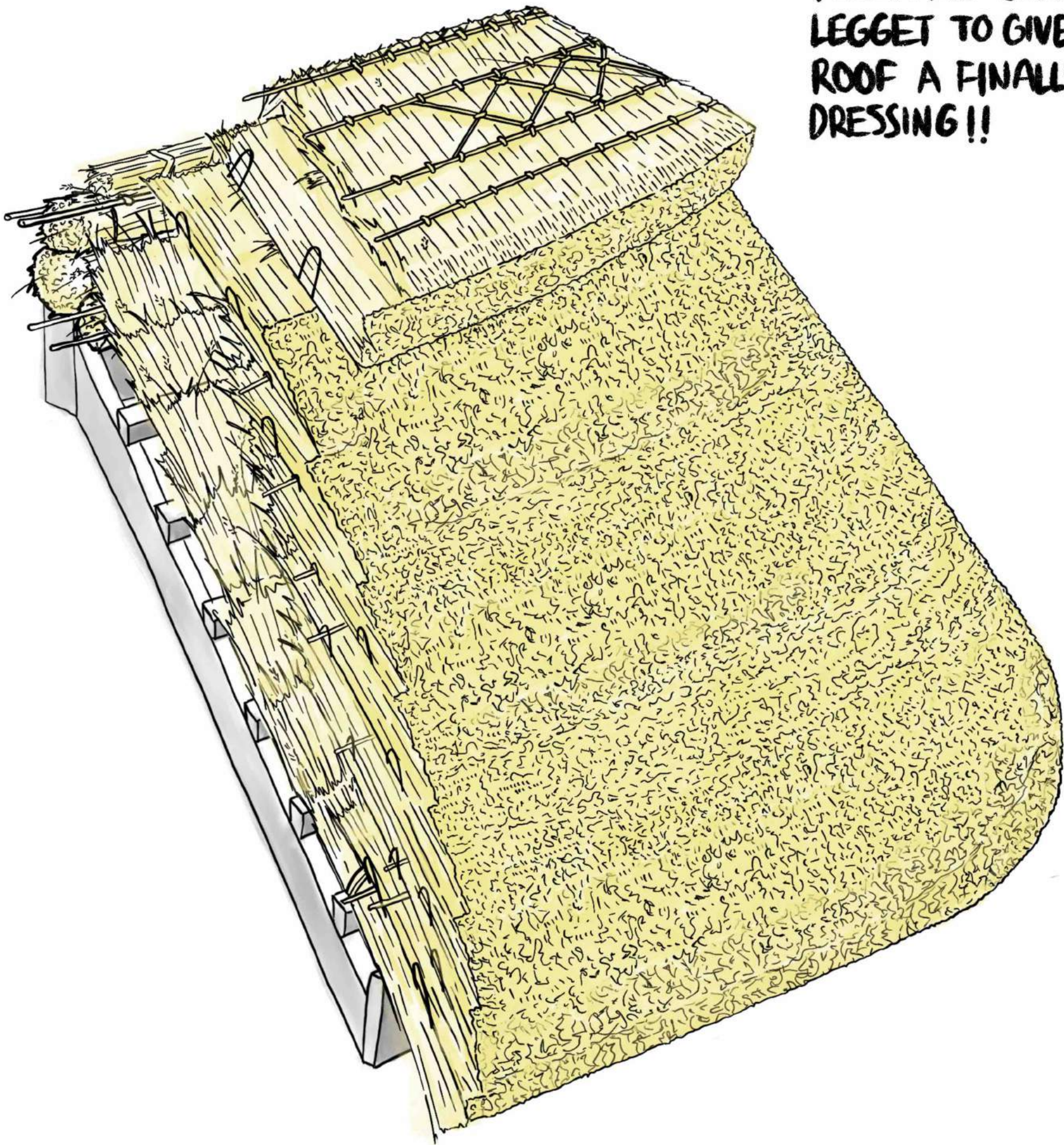
THE STRINGS  
CAN THEN BE  
CUT AND THE  
WRAPS MARRIED

THIS IS MADE  
PERMANENT BY  
FIXING HAZEL  
LENGTHS DOWN  
WITH HAZEL SPARS





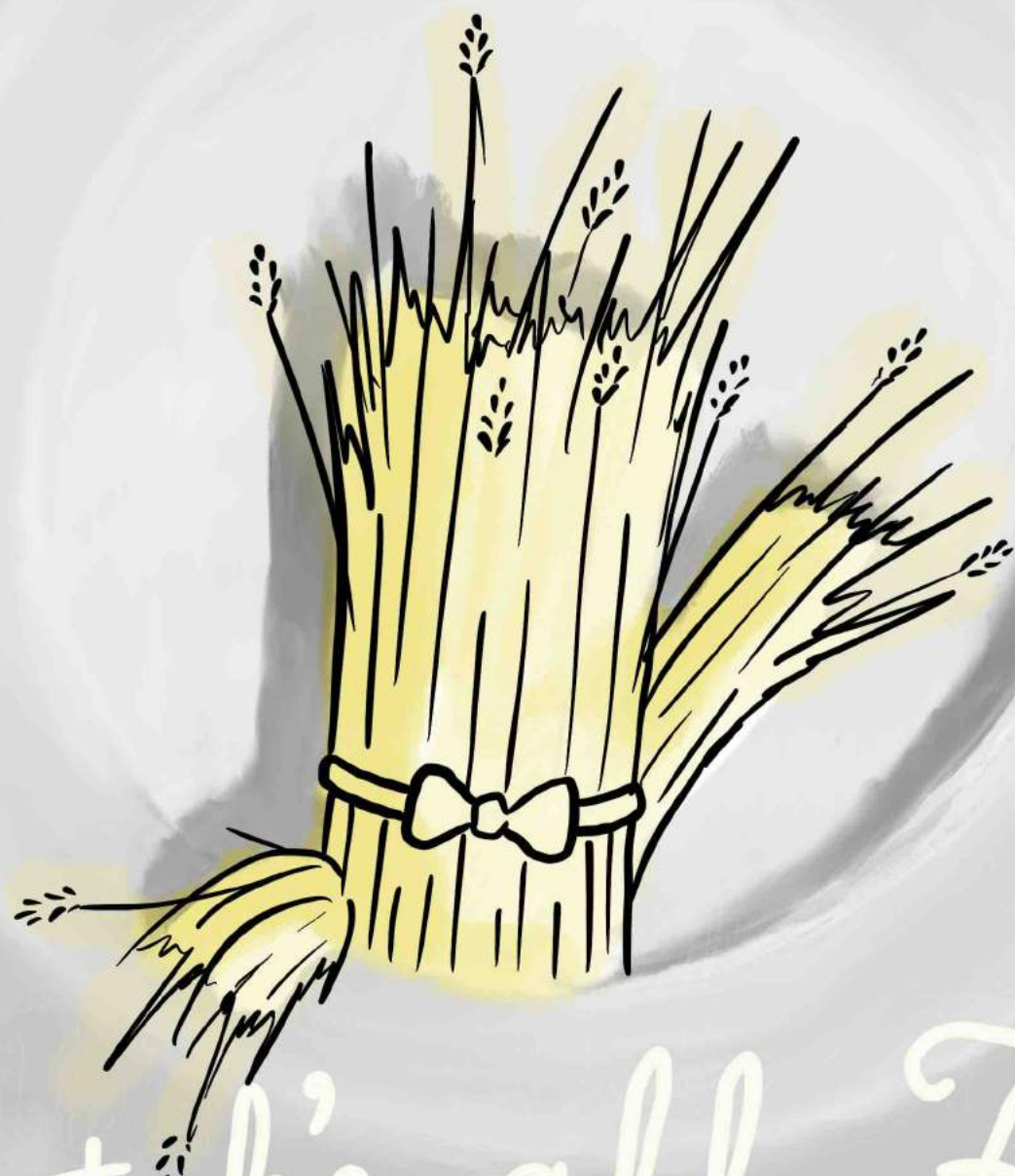
WITH EVERYTHING IN  
ITS RIGHT PLACE WE  
CAN NOW PICK UP THE  
SHEARS, THE SHEARING  
HOOK AND OUR DEAR  
LEGGET TO GIVE THE  
ROOF A FINALLY FINAL  
DRESSING !!



IT'S OKAY TO SHED TEARS OF JOY NOW..

THIS ROOF IS WATERPROOF.





“Thatch’s all Folks!”



SO YOU THINK THIS WAS BAD?  
THERE'S WORSE AT [WWW.SOARHUB.IN](http://WWW.SOARHUB.IN)